

Town of Simsbury

933 Hopmeadow Street Simsbury, Connecticut 06070

Board of Finance Agenda Submission

May 11, 2023

Trish Munroe
Town Clerk
Simsbury, CT 06070

Dear Ms. Munroe:

A **Regular Meeting and Post Budget Referendum Meeting** of the Board of Finance will be held at **5:45 PM**, on **Tuesday, May 16, 2023**, in the Cafeteria of the Henry James Middle School, 155 Firetown Road, Simsbury, Connecticut.

The Agenda is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Finance Director's Report (Pages 1-8)
4. Town Quarterly Financial Report – Capital Schedules (Pages 9-14)
5. Board of Education Quarterly Financial Report (Pages 15-17)
6. Approval of the Tax Collector Suspense List (Pages 18-27)
7. Appointment of the Auditor for FY 2022/2023 Audit (Page 28)
8. Summer Capital Discussion
9. Setting of the FY 2023/2024 Mill Rate (Pages 29-30)

Board of Finance
May 16, 2023

10. Approval of Minutes

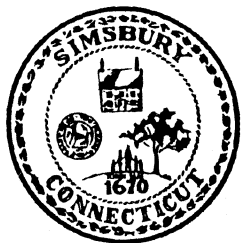
- March 21, 2023 (Pages 31-34)
- April 4, 2023 (Pages 35-70)
- April 18, 2023 (Pages 71-111)

11. Adjourn

Lisa Heavner
Chair

Board of Finance Meeting Schedule:

6/20/23, 7/18/23, 8/22/23, 9/19/23, 10/17/23, 11/17/23, 12/19/23, 1/16/24



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET ~ SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

To: Board of Finance
From: Amy Meriwether, Finance Director/Treasurer
CC: Nick Boulter, Interim Town Manager
Date: May 16, 2023
Re: Finance Director's Report

Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Approved Supplemental Appropriations

Below is a listing of supplemental appropriations approved by the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance as of May 16, 2023:

- 56 Wolcott Road Purchase - \$175,000
- Planning & Architectural Services for Meadowood Barns - \$40,000
- Worker's Compensation Claim Settlement - \$185,000
- Local Transportation Capital Improvement Grant (LOTICIP) & Connecticut Community Connectivity Grant (CCCGP) Firetown Road Sidewalk Gap Closure - \$35,000
- Retroactive Wage Increases - \$798,665
- Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Encumbrances into fiscal year 2022/2023 - \$280,096
- Farmington Valley Health District - \$100,056
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Data Project - \$22,000
- Finance Department Temp Staffing - \$12,500
- Parks & Recreation Temp Staffing - \$10,000
- Social Services Temp Staffing - \$8,000

Total Supplemental Appropriations - \$1,666,317 or 1.45% of the FY22/23 Adopted Budget

Grants and Donations

Below is a listing of donations and grant applications approved by the Board of Selectmen at their meetings from February 27, 2023 thru May 8, 2023:

- Keith and Carol McLean-Shinaman Donation - \$1,850 to support Simsbury's food programs.

- Historic Document Preservation Grant - \$8,000 to continue the vital record project that was initiated in the prior year. This funding allows the transfer of records from bound binders to archival binders.
- Simsbury-Granby Rotary Club Donation - \$1,875 to sponsor the attendance of three Simsbury Police cadets at the Cadet Academy in the summer of 2023.
- Police Department Congressionally Directed Spending Program - \$112,000 for Technology Upgrades for the Simsbury Police Department and Town Hall.
- Hartford Foundation for Public Giving Human Needs Grant – \$6,000 to purchase fresh produce for distribution at the monthly Cheese Day program.
- CT Humanities in Support of the Simsbury History and Culinary Storytelling Program Gant - \$1,385 to create a program in Fall 2023 that focuses on four historic buildings in town, explore their histories, and examine their journeys to the present-day.
- CT State Library for the Creative Aging Arts Education Pilot Program Grant - \$2,500 to support a program of eight, 90-minute art instruction sessions taught by a professional teaching artist, which will build skills over the weeks and culminate in a community event.
- 2023 COPS Hiring Program Application – Up to \$125,000 over a 3-year funding period to help cover the salary and benefits cost for each new officer hired in support of increasing our community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts and service to the community.

Below is a chart of all grant awards and their current status:

Grant Application	Amount	Status
Communities Challenge Grant - PAC	740,000	Awarded
State Historic Preservation Office Historic Fund Grant - Meadowood Barns	200,000	Awarded
STEAP - Station Street One-Way to Two-Way Conversion	160,000	Awarded
Secretary of State Absentee Ballot Prep	10,710	Awarded
Historic Document Preservation Grant (FY24)	8,000	Awarded
Greater Hartford Transit Dial A Ride	6,660	Awarded
AARP CT Livable Communities - Simbury Stories Café	5,000	Awarded
Healthy Living Collective Grant - Tai Ji Quan Better Balance	2,800	Awarded
CT Indoor Air Quality Grant @Squadron Line	180,000	Denied

CRCOG LOTCIP Grant - Climax Road Bridge Replacement	3,735,000	Pending
2023 COPS Hiring Program Application	125,000	Pending
Police Department Congressionally Directed Spending	112,000	Pending
Library PEGPETIA	26,864	Pending
Hartford Foundation for Public Givine Human Needs Grant	6,000	Pending
CT State Library for the Creative Aging Arts Education PILOT Program Grant	2,500	Pending
CT Humanities in Support of the Simsbury History of Culinary Storytelling Program Grant	1,385	Pending

Financial Summary as of April 30, 2023

Attached for review is the General Fund revenue and expenditure budget status reports as of April 30, 2023.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE FINANCIAL COMPARISON

Description	FY2023 BUDGETED REVENUES	FY2023 ACTUAL As of 4/30/2023	\$ Variance	% Spent	Notes
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
TAX DEPARTMENT	100,624,738	99,869,210	(755,528)	99.25%	Budgeted conservative tax collection rate resulting in tax collections coming in in excess of budget by the end of the fiscal year. Current year tax collection budgeted to come in at \$500K in excess of budget, however, supplemental auto bills are coming in lower than anticipated. Projected current year tax collections to come in at \$200K in excess of budget. State funding for motor vehicle reimbursement was budgeted at 29 mill reimbursement (\$2,006,464), however State approved mill rate of 31.49 reducing funding to \$1,180,975.
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	738,500	645,733	(92,767)	87.44%	
FINANCE DEPARTMENT	333,631	1,118,022	784,391	335.11%	Increased interest income resulting from rising interest rates
TOWN CLERK	888,590	655,808	(232,782)	73.80%	
TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE	345,202	819,510	474,308	237.40%	PILOT payment was budgeted at \$99,702 but received \$651,183. Additional funding from Municipal Revenue Sharing grant program that was modified for 2022 and 2023
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	171,752	171,752	-	100.00%	
LAND USE COMMISSION	20,000	24,559	4,559	122.80%	
INSURANCE REFUNDS	47,500	66,852	19,352	140.74%	Conservative budget
ASSESSOR'S OFFICE	5,800	5,009	(791)	86.36%	
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	103,175,713	103,376,456	200,743	100.19%	
PUBLIC SAFETY					
POLICE DEPARTMENT	210,600	164,446	(46,155)	78.08%	
ANIMAL CONTROL	500	105	(395)	21.00%	
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	211,100	164,551	(46,550)	77.95%	
PUBLIC WORKS					
ENGINEERING	25,050	22,217	(2,833)	88.69%	
ENO MEMORAL HALL	1,000	1,580	580	158.00%	
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	3,250	5,290	2,040	162.75%	
LANDFILL	-	-	-	#DIV/0!	
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	29,300	29,087	(213)	99.27%	
HEALTH & WELFARE					
ELDERLY/HANDICAPPED TRANSPORT	40,720	-	(40,720)	0.00%	Timing, payments will be received in June
TOTAL HEALTH & WELFARE	40,720	-	(40,720)	0.00%	
CULTURE, PARKS & RECREATION					
PARKS & RECREATION	232,651	232,651	-	100.00%	
LIBRARY	9,700	14,486	4,786	149.34%	
COMMUNITY GARDENS	4,400	5,319	919	120.89%	

Description	FY2023	FY2023	\$ Variance	% Spent	Notes
	BUDGETED REVENUES	ACTUAL As of 4/30/2023			
MEMORAL POOLS & FIELDS	2,800	24,017	21,217	857.75%	Increased pool revenue from prior year
TOTAL CULTURE, PARKS & RECREATION	249,551	276,473	26,922	110.79%	
EDUCATION					
BOARD OF EDUCATION	7,139,378	7,304,271	164,893	102.31%	Unanticipated tuition revenue
TOTAL EDUCATION	7,139,378	7,304,271	164,893	102.31%	
INTERGOVERNMENTAL					
TRANSFER IN - BELDEN TRUST	26,960	26,960	-	100.00%	
TRANSFER IN - CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS	430,717	430,717	-	100.00%	
TRANSFER IN - ARPA FUND	3,757,833	3,757,833	-	100.00%	
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	4,215,510	4,215,510	-	100.00%	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	115,061,272	115,366,347	305,075	100.27%	

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE FINANCIAL COMPARISON

Description	FY2023	FY2023	\$ Variance	% Spent	Notes
	BUDGETED EXPENDITURES	ACTUAL As of 4/30/2023			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE	495,579	432,156	63,423	87.20%	
PLANNING DEPARTMENT	376,670	300,457	76,213	79.77%	
FINANCE DEPARTMENT	475,689	443,722	31,967	93.28%	
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	494,378	386,240	108,138	78.13%	
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	306,404	262,976	43,428	85.83%	
ASSESSOR'S OFFICE	381,919	355,700	26,219	93.13%	
TOWN CLERK	250,045	257,206	(7,161)	102.86%	This line item is currently showing over budget due to the settlement of the CSEA contract. A budget line item of the contingency payouts had been added within the Intergovernmental department to offset the overage. Transfer requests will be prepared as part of the year end close to put the budget in line with actuals. No supplemental appropriations are needed.
TAX DEPARTMENT	199,496	196,582	2,914	98.54%	
LEGAL SERVICES	151,000	161,563	(10,563)	107.00%	Increased legal services during the year are due to tax appeal settlements. It was noted during the quarterly reporting that this budget was going to go over by the end of the year. There is enough savings in other departmental budgets where no supplement appropriation is needed. Department transfer requests will be prepared as part of the year end close to put the budget in line with actuals.
ELECTION ADMINISTRATION	157,035	124,202	32,833	79.09%	
COMMUNITY SERVICES	403,427	321,466	81,961	79.68%	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	126,716	102,430	24,286	80.83%	
BOARD OF FINANCE	48,295	44,626	3,669	92.40%	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION	50,650	63,500	(12,850)	125.37%	As noted during the quarterly reporting, there was a purchase order in FY21 was not rolled forward into FY22 or FY23 during the Munis conversion. Project was completed in FY23 and final payment made. Anticipated savings as the year goes will offset overage. Transfer requests will be prepared to put the budget in line with actuals. No supplemental appropriation needed.
LAND USE COMMISSION	19,200	10,902	8,298	56.78%	
REGIONAL PROBATE COURT	9,548	9,548	-	100.00%	
PUBLIC BUILDING COMMISSION	2,000	1,239	761	61.93%	
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	3,948,051	3,474,515	473,536	88.01%	
PUBLIC SAFETY					
POLICE DEPARTMENT	5,542,887	4,282,493	1,260,394	77.26%	
DISPATCH	592,210	453,336	138,874	76.55%	

Description	FY2023	FY2023	\$ Variance	% Spent	Notes
	BUDGETED EXPENDITURES	ACTUAL As of 4/30/2023			
ANIMAL CONTROL	75,217	39,314	35,903	52.27%	
POLICE COMMISSION	750	285	465	38.00%	
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	26,800	15,330	11,470	57.20%	
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	6,237,864	4,790,758	1,447,106	76.80%	
PUBLIC WORKS					
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	3,173,377	2,702,487	470,890	85.16%	
BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE	537,636	433,674	103,962	80.66%	
ENGINEERING	307,479	253,690	53,789	82.51%	
PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION	334,726	330,634	4,092	98.78%	
TOWN OFFICE BUILDINGS	151,172	150,759	413	99.73%	
LIBRARY	154,527	114,711	39,816	74.23%	
ENO MEMORAL HALL	74,609	58,296	16,313	78.14%	
OTHER BUILDINGS	33,810	25,424	8,386	75.20%	
LANDFILL	78,000	39,590	38,410	50.76%	
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	4,845,336	4,109,265	736,071	84.81%	
HEALTH & WELFARE					
SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION	408,666	372,666	36,000	91.19%	
SENIOR CENTER SERVICES	160,687	145,902	14,785	90.80%	
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	167,870	101,307	66,563	60.35%	
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	283,926	283,926	-	100.00%	
AGING & DISABILITY COMMISSION	1,500	866	634	57.73%	
TOTAL HEALTH & WELFARE	1,022,649	904,667	117,982	88.46%	
CULTURE, PARKS & RECREATION					
LIBRARY	1,646,557	1,474,023	172,534	89.52%	
PARKS & OPEN SPACE	1,016,874	876,051	140,823	86.15%	
MEMORIAL POOL	81,097	54,724	26,373	67.48%	
RECREATION ADMINISTRATION	74,560	70,795	3,765	94.95%	
MEMORIAL FIELD	37,714	13,433	24,281	35.62%	
BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE	6,000	682	5,318	11.37%	
TOTAL CULTURE, PARKS & RECREATION	2,862,802	2,489,708	373,094	86.97%	
EDUCATION					
BOARD OF EDUCATION	77,030,819	58,968,706	18,062,113	76.55%	
TOTAL EDUCATION	77,030,819	58,968,706	18,062,113	76.55%	
INTERGOVERNMENTAL					
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	6,741,777	5,511,958	1,229,819	81.76%	
LIABILITY INSURANCE	672,949	672,949	-	100.00%	
TRANSFER OUT - SIMSBURY FARMS	151,715	151,715	-	100.00%	
TRANSFER OUT - MSP SENIOR FUND	10,480	10,480	-	100.00%	

Description	FY2023	FY2023	\$ Variance	% Spent	Notes
	BUDGETED EXPENDITURES	ACTUAL As of 4/30/2023			
TRANSFER OUT - YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU	8,000	8,000	-	100.00%	
TRANSFER OUT - ATHLETICS FIELDS	2,250	2,250	-	100.00%	
CONTINGENCY RESERVE	184,953	-	184,953	0.00%	
CONTINGENCY VACANCY	(200,000)	-	(200,000)	0.00%	
NEGOTIATED CONTRACT PAYOUTS	798,665	-	798,665	0.00%	
TRANSFER OUT - CNR 2018	-	-	-	#DIV/0!	
TRANSFER OUT - CNR 2019	83,250	83,250	-	100.00%	
TRANSFER OUT - CNR 2020	83,250	83,250	-	100.00%	
TRANSFER OUT - CNR 2021	83,250	83,250	-	100.00%	
TRANSFER OUT - CNR 2022	83,250	83,250	-	100.00%	
TRANSFER OUT - CNR 2023	393,250	393,250	-	100.00%	
TRANSFER OUT - CAPITAL PROJECTS	1,298,574	1,298,574	-	100.00%	
TRANSFER OUT - CAPITAL RESERVE	3,632,833	3,632,833	-	100.00%	
TOTAL INTERGOVERNEMENTAL	14,028,446	12,015,009	2,013,438	85.65%	
DEBT SERVICE					
PRINCIPAL	5,090,000	3,025,000	2,065,000	59.43%	
INTEREST	1,281,525	1,042,200	239,325	81.32%	
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	6,371,525	4,067,200	2,304,325	63.83%	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	116,347,492	90,819,826	25,527,666	78.06%	



Town of Simsbury

933 Hopmeadow Street Simsbury, Connecticut 06070

Board of Finance Agenda Item Submission Form

1. **Title of Submission:** Town Quarterly Financial Report – Capital Schedules
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** May 16, 2023
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**
Amy Meriwether, Director of Finance
4. **Action Requested of the Board of Finance:**
No action is requested
5. **Summary of Submission:**
The general fund operating budget quarterly financial report was reviewed at the prior Board of Finance meeting on April 18th as part of the FY 2023/2024 budget discussion. Attached are the remaining capital schedules typically included with the quarterly financial report for the Boards review.
6. **Financial Impact:**
None
7. **Description of Documents Included with Submission:**
 - Capital Projects Summary
 - Capital Reserve Summary
 - Capital Non-Recurring Fund Summary

**Town of Simsbury
Capital Project Fund
Schedule of Expenditures Compared with Appropriations
For the Period Ended March 31, 2023**

Inception Year	Expected Completion	Project	Expenditures				Uncommitted Balance March 31, 2023	Notes
			Appropriation Balance March 31, 2023	Balance June 30, 2022	Current Year	Balance March 31, 2023		
Sewer Fund Projects								
FY10	Completed	Project 2010 - Woodland Street Upgrade	\$ 260,000	\$ 251,356	\$ -	\$ 251,356	\$ 8,644	
FY18	Completed	Phosphorus Removal Analysis/WPC Plan Update	325,000	143,473	16,408	159,881	165,119	
FY19	Spring 2023	Primary Clarifier	75,000	29,960	-	29,960	45,040	
FY20	March 2023	Plant Logic Controllers	250,000	108,769	26,019	134,788	115,212	
FY21	Completed	Sec Clarifier Weir Covers	275,000	177,540	16,990	194,530	80,470	
FY22	On Going	Sewer Liners	800,000	381,926	309,034	690,960	109,040	
FY22	N/A - Not moving forward as of yet	Berm Improvements	3,250,000	-	-	-	3,250,000	Grant not approved, look at other grant/funding options
FY22	Completed	Woodland/Hopmeadow Sewer Upgrades	1,616,500	1,326,324	228,734	1,555,058	61,442	
FY23	April 2023	Primary Clarifier	150,000	-	31,800	31,800	118,200	

Town Projects

FY14	Completed - Needs State Audit	Senior/Community Center Design	321,699	163,596	-	163,596	158,103	
FY15	Completed	Bridge Improvements (Design-FY15)	115,000	76,167	-	76,167	38,833	
FY15	Completed	Technology Infrastructure	635,395	617,069	12,128	629,197	6,199	
FY16	Completed	Weatogue Planning Route 10 and Code Prep	57,000	32,540	-	32,540	24,460	
FY16	FY23	Town Hall Site and Safety Improvements	45,000	13,620	-	13,620	31,380	
FY17	December 2023	Multi-Use Connections & Master Plan Updates	1,160,000	276,250	298,817	575,067	584,933	
FY17/FY18	Completed	Dam Evaluations and Repairs	220,000	223,315	-	223,315	(3,315)	Director will look into overage, likely a coding error
FY17	FY23	Town Hall Site and Safety Improvements	385,000	48,385	-	48,385	336,615	
FY17	December 2023	Land Use Studies	92,500	52,485	5,000	57,485	35,015	
FY18	Completed	Town Facilities Master Plan	400,000	218,012	25,539	243,551	156,449	
FY18	TBD	Zoning Regulation Update	65,000	2,500	-	2,500	62,500	
FY18	December 2023	Bridge Improvements	805,000	327,253	-	327,253	477,747	
FY19	FY23	Multi-Use Trail	1,020,000	-	880,975	880,975	139,025	
Recurring	On Going	Highway Pavement Management	4,427,948	3,777,125	650,823	4,427,948	-	
Recurring	On Going	Greenway Improvements	227,706	(21,359)	91,924	70,566	118,940	
Recurring	On Going	Sidewalk Reconstruction	658,835	370,830	76,802	447,632	211,204	
FY20	December 2023	Accounting System	385,000	298,287	2,100	300,387	84,613	
FY20	December 2023	Eno Entrance and ADA Improvements	488,841	-	-	-	488,841	
FY21	Completed	Radio System Upgrade	1,202,000	1,242,516	-	1,242,516	(40,516)	Timing - This will be reimbursed from the Ambulance Assoc. Project in total will be under budget
FY22	June 2023	Meadows Parking Improvements	874,000	757,082	60,704	817,785	56,215	
FY22	November 2023	North End Sidewalk	810,000	-	-	-	810,000	
FY23	April 2023	Golf Irrigation System	2,550,000	81	174,469	174,550	2,375,450	
FY23	FY23	Town Hall Site & Safety Improvements	450,000	-	78	78	449,922	
FY23	November 2023	Eno Parking Improvements	245,000	-	3,460	3,460	241,540	
FY23	TBD	Trails - Rt 10 to Curtiss Park	1,582,744	-	-	-	1,582,744	
FY23	TBD	Trails - Curtiss Park to Tariffville	300,000	-	7,850	7,850	292,150	
FY23	TBD	Performing Arts Center Restrooms	350,000	-	-	-	350,000	
FY23	Spring 2024	Tariffville Park Court Replacement	350,000	-	-	-	350,000	
FY23	July 2023	Flower Bridge Repair Design	280,000	-	-	-	280,000	
FY23	November 2024	Firetown Road Sidewalk	1,829,000	-	14,100	14,100	1,814,900	
FY23	November 2023	Hopmeadow Connectivity	1,298,972	-	-	-	1,298,972	

**Town of Simsbury
Capital Project Fund
Schedule of Expenditures Compared with Appropriations
For the Period Ended March 31, 2023**

Inception Year	Expected Completion	Project	Expenditures				Uncommitted Balance March 31, 2023	Notes
			Appropriation Balance March 31, 2023	Balance June 30, 2022	Current Year	Balance March 31, 2023		
Education Projects								
FY15	Completed - Needs State Audit	HJMS Phase 1A	1,255,000	1,168,450	-	1,168,450	86,550	
FY15	Completed - Needs State Audit	Squadron Line Main Office Project	1,050,000	868,830	-	868,830	181,170	
FY16/FY17	December 2023	Climate Control Phases 1 (FY16) & 2 (FY17)	3,100,000	3,023,217	29,029	3,052,245	47,755	
FY17	Completed - State Audit in Progress	HJMS Renovation - Phase 2	1,950,000	1,717,409	-	1,717,409	232,591	
FY19	Completed	Boiler Replacement Latimer	900,000	265,553	-	265,553	634,447	
FY19	Completed - Needs State Audit	HJMS Renovation - Phase 3	23,965,620	19,999,054	945	19,999,999	3,965,621	
FY20	Summer 2023	District Security Improvements	1,000,000	390,237	492,175	882,412	117,588	
FY20	Completed - Needs State Audit	SHS Partial Roof Replacement	2,600,000	2,115,245	-	2,115,245	484,755	
FY22	Summer 2023	SHS Bleachers & Press Box	600,000	37,676	545,933	583,609	16,391	
FY22	Novemeber 2024	Latimer Lane Renovation	36,792,406	1,168,575	3,873,368	5,041,943	31,750,463	
FY23	December 2023	Tootin Water Distribution & Drainage	480,000	852	135,408	136,260	343,740	
FY23	Summer 2023	District Network Infrastructure	400,000	-	341,638	341,638	58,362	
FY23	Summer 2023	District Climate Control	1,650,000	-	5,863	5,863	1,644,138	
FY23	TBD - Working with State on final approvals	Central Roof Replacement	370,000	-	10,795	10,795	359,205	
FY23	TBD - Working with State on final approvals	Tariffville Roof Replacement	1,000,000	-	17,775	17,775	982,225	
FY23	Summer 2023	Central Electric Svc & Distribution	250,000	-	-	-	250,000	
FY23	Summer 2024	Tariffville Modulars	350,000	-	-	-	350,000	

Town of Simsbury
Capital Non-Recurring Fund
Schedule of Expenditures Compared with Appropriations
For the Period Ended March 31, 2023

Inception Year	Project	Expenditures				Uncommitted Balance March 31, 2023
		Appropriation Balance March 31, 2023	Balance June 30, 2022	Current Year	Balance March 31, 2023	
Town Projects						
	FY19 CNR Projects	1,194,450	1,196,548	-	1,196,548	(2,098)
	CNR Reserve (5 Year Payback)	1,900,000	-	-	-	1,900,000
Recurring	CNR Assessor	385,100	81,877	110,224	192,101	192,999
FY20	Automated Book Handler	73,640	66,409	-	66,409	7,231
FY20	Radio Feasibility Study	35,000	-	-	-	35,000
FY21	Ash Borer Tree Mitigation	35,400	31,395	-	31,395	4,005
FY20	Infrared Asphalt Trailer	37,000	-	-	-	37,000
FY21	CPR PU Truck Replacement	41,839	41,323	-	41,323	516
FY20/FY21	Ice Rink Condenser	134,200	131,149	-	131,149	3,051
FY20	SF Security Fencing	30,000	22,726	-	22,726	7,274
FY20	Ice Rink Roof Painting	50,000	50,877	-	50,877	(877)
Recurring	Playscapes	380,000	-	54,789	54,789	325,211
FY20	Plow & Sander Replacement	14,984	14,984	-	14,984	0
Recurring	Various Drainage Improvements	250,000	105,826	124,921	230,747	19,253
FY21	Rec/PAC Building Staining	85,000	72,658	-	72,658	12,342
FY20/FY21	Rink Control Panel	108,000	86,329	-	86,329	21,671
FY21	Parking Feasibility Study	30,000	29,249	-	29,249	751
FY21	P&R Garage Ventilation	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
FY21	Soft Body Armor	21,000	22,291	-	22,291	(1,291)
FY21	Patrol Supervisor Cruisers	110,000	74,216	-	74,216	35,784
FY21	Sewer Imp - Lining/Root Control	100,000	100,000	-	100,000	-
FY21/FY22	Dial A Ride Van	127,000	-	-	-	127,000
FY21	Woodland/Hopmeadow Sewer	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	-
FY21	Greens Mower	148,500	71,320	73,183	144,503	3,997
Recurring	P&R Signage	48,000	-	15,400	15,400	32,600
FY20	PW Utility Van	46,000	34,816	-	34,816	11,185
Recurring	Police Admin Vehicles	302,300	167,542	-	167,542	134,758
FY21	Network Storage & Virtual Env	130,000	138,697	-	138,697	(8,697)
Recurring	Computer Replacement	81,360	35,221	30,750	65,971	15,389
Recurring	Radio System Maint/Repair	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
FY22	Microsoft Upgrade	35,100	17,548	17,417	34,965	135
Recurring	Body & Car Cameras	100,670	47,794	46,512	94,306	6,364
FY22	Equipment Trailer	8,000	-	9,795	9,795	(1,795)
FY22	Schultz Park Gazebo	10,000	7,104	-	7,104	2,896
FY22	Rink Chiller	120,000	-	5,538	5,538	114,462
FY22	Meadows Facilities Maint	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
FY22	Parks Utility Vehicle	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
FY22/FY23	Clubhouse Repairs	170,000	25,803	25,032	50,835	119,165

Town of Simsbury
Capital Non-Recurring Fund
Schedule of Expenditures Compared with Appropriations
For the Period Ended March 31, 2023

Inception Year	Project	Expenditures				Uncommitted Balance March 31, 2023
		Appropriation Balance March 31, 2023	Balance June 30, 2022	Current Year	Balance March 31, 2023	
FY22	Police Training Simulator	65,000	62,500	-	62,500	2,500
FY22/FY23	Irrigation Replacement	106,000	-	35,448	35,448	70,552
Recurring	Material Crushing	127,000	92,108	-	92,108	34,892
FY22	Spam Filter/Archiving	12,000	10,550	-	10,550	1,450
FY22	Parks Maintenance Software	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
FY22	WPCA Vehicle	45,000	-	-	-	45,000
FY22	Tunix Pump Station Rehab	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
FY22	Plow Blades	28,000	10,908	-	10,908	17,092
FY22	Front End Loader	200,000	188,427	-	188,427	11,573
FY22	Bunker Raker	27,000	25,203	-	25,203	1,797
FY21	Life Safety Analysis - PAC	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
FY21	Lieutenant Office Space	25,000	27,518	(1,488)	26,030	(1,030)
FY21	Wayfinding Signage	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
FY22	SCTV Space Renovations	45,000	-	36,407	27,948	17,052
FY22	PW Skid Loader	80,750	58,645	-	58,645	22,105
FY23	Police Cruisers	155,453	-	110,224	110,224	45,229
FY23	PW Truck Replacement	210,000	-	207,046	207,046	2,954
FY23	Mobile Data Terminals	19,000	-	23,963	23,963	(4,963)
FY21/FY23	Dump Truck	251,000	103,733	25,795	129,528	121,472
FY23	Snow Plow	31,000	-	29,984	29,984	1,016
FY23	Traffic Calming	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
FY23	Bobcat Skid Loader	70,000	-	1,092	1,092	68,908
FY23	Gateway Signage	55,500	-	-	-	55,500
FY23	Scout Hall Repairs & Maintenance	35,000	-	15,836	15,836	19,164
FY23	Carpet Cleaner	12,000	-	6,005	6,005	5,995
FY23	Pool Repairs & Maintenance	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
FY23	Cyber Security Audit	35,000	-	-	-	35,000
FY23	Community Farms Repairs & Maintenance	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
FY23	Cart Path Repairs & Maintenance	35,000	-	-	-	35,000
FY23	Staffing Study	70,000	-	10,909	10,909	59,091
FY23	Firearms	35,000	-	-	-	35,000
FY23	Elevator Renovation	40,000	-	3,275	3,275	36,725
FY23	HVAC Repairs & Maintenance	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
FY23	P&R Dump Truck	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
FY23	Roller	19,500	-	21,577	21,577	(2,077)
FY23	Milling Machine	36,000	-	-	-	36,000
FY23	Turf Sprayer	90,000	-	-	-	90,000
FY23	Pavilion Repairs	75,000	-	-	-	75,000
FY23	Backstop Replacement	27,000	-	25,100	25,100	1,900
FY23	Air Volume Control	38,000	-	12,370	12,370	25,630

Town of Simsbury
 Capital Non-Recurring Fund
 Schedule of Expenditures Compared with Appropriations
 For the Period Ended March 31, 2023

Inception Year	Project	Appropriation Balance March 31, 2023	Expenditures			Uncommitted Balance March 31, 2023
			Balance June 30, 2022	Current Year	Balance March 31, 2023	
FY23	Pond Dredging	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
FY23	WPCA Roof Repairs & Maintenance	130,000	-	-	-	130,000
FY23	Pollinator Pathways	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
FY23	Barn Demolition	40,000	-	29,162	29,162	10,838
FY23	56 Wolcott Purchase	175,000	-	179,013	179,013	(4,013)

Education Projects

Recurring	Buses/Vehicles/Equipment	542,821	275,131	-	275,131	267,690
FY23	Exterior Improvements	42,832	-	35,295	35,295	7,537
FY23	SHS Carpet & Flooring	48,316	-	47,994	47,994	322
FY23	District Playground Maint	14,584	-	14,058	14,058	526
FY23	Squadron Carpet & Flooring	84,901	-	89,489	89,489	(4,588)
FY23	SHS Auditorium AV	33,000	-	35,411	35,411	(2,411)
FY23	District Plow	59,034	-	62,075	62,075	(3,041)
FY23	HJ Tennis Courts	55,000	-	55,000	55,000	-
FY23	SHS Interior Improvements	23,942	-	23,559	23,559	383
FY23	Central Interior Improvements	14,132	-	13,872	13,872	260
FY23	Squadron Interior Improvements	25,649	-	23,866	23,866	1,783

TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Matthew T. Curtis, Superintendent of Schools
RE: Financial Report/Quarterly Budget Analysis
DATE: April 25, 2023

Below is the first quarter budget analysis of the Simsbury Public Schools for the fiscal year 2022-23.

Revenues

Below is a summary of the District's State grant awards:

- **Open Choice Academic and Social Support** – Funding is used to promote academic and social success for students participating in the Hartford Region Choice program. Simsbury was awarded \$197,575 in the current fiscal year, an increase of \$675 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- **Open Choice Attendance & Early Learning** - Funding is used to support salaries and benefits for 7 FTE certified staff, tutors, magnet school tuitions, additional Choice student supports, equipment and preschool development. Simsbury's current year entitlement, based on the district's 10/1/22 enrollment, will be \$1,770,000, an increase of \$118,000 compared to the prior fiscal year's original entitlement received.
- **Special Education Placements & Excess Cost** – Funding is provided to reimburse the District for special education costs in excess of 4.5 times the cost of educating a regular education student. Simsbury's preliminary current year estimate is \$2,362,190. The prior year reimbursement award totaled \$1,827,251.
- **Adult Education** – Funding to support Connecticut mandated adult education programs is administered through a cooperative program with the Farmington Continuing Education Department. Simsbury was awarded \$6,213 in the current fiscal year. The prior year award totaled \$15,533.
- **Talent Development (TEAM)** – Funding provides partial reimbursement for TEAM mentor stipends. The current year award is not, as yet, determined. The prior year award totaled \$3,532.
- **Private School Health Services** – Funding to support private school health services provided by the District's health services staff as required by Connecticut statute. Simsbury was awarded \$20,219 in the current fiscal year. The prior year award totaled \$20,940.

Below is a summary of the District's Federal grant awards:

- **Title I – Improving Basic Programs** – Funding is used to pay for tutor costs as well as instructional materials and equipment. Simsbury has received an award of \$121,122 in the current fiscal year, an increase of \$2,788 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- **Title II Part A – Teacher Quality** – Funding is used to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers and provide professional development to teachers and principals. Simsbury has received an award of \$59,994 in the current fiscal year, an increase of \$3,391 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- **Title III Part A – English Language Acquisition** - Funding is used to assist students whose native language is other than English in order to obtain English proficiency and literacy. Simsbury has received an award of \$10,137 in the current fiscal year, an increase of \$676 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- **Title IV, Part A – Student Support & Academic Enrichment** – Funding is used to (1) provide all students with access to a well-rounded education, (2) improve school conditions for student learning and (3) improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students. Simsbury has received an award of \$10,000 in the current fiscal year. No change from prior year funding.
- **IDEA – Part B and Pre-School** - Funding is used to support the education of identified students; salaries for teaching and support staff, professional development, outside consulting, tutoring services, instructional supplies and equipment, and technology licensing. Simsbury has received a final award of \$1,119,885 in the current fiscal year, an increase of \$41,194 compared to the prior fiscal year.

- **Carl Perkins** – Funding is used to develop the academic, career and technical skills of secondary students who elect to enroll in career and technical education programs. Specific expenditures supported by the grant include substitute coverage for professional development, student transportation and equipment. Simsbury was awarded \$34,280, plus a supplemental award of \$41,096 in the current fiscal year. This is an increase of \$10,655 compared to the prior fiscal year.
- **Medicaid School Based Child Health Program** – Section 51 of PA17-2 mandates the district's participation in the Medicaid School Based Child Health Program. Net reimbursements are approximately \$20,000 annually.

Expenditures

General Fund	2022-23		2021-22	2022-23	2021-22
	Original Budget	YTD Expenditures	YTD Expenditures	% Spent	% Spent
General Control	2,299,033	1,710,973	1,582,920	74.42%	73.95%
Instruction	47,748,381	31,497,357	31,048,272	65.97%	68.14%
Health Services	780,627	550,456	557,818	70.51%	77.44%
Pupil Transportation	2,928,619	2,466,645	1,984,270	84.23%	71.13%
Operation of Plant	5,073,617	3,799,214	3,748,728	74.88%	75.61%
Maint of Plant/Equipment	1,267,319	1,115,864	1,005,224	88.05%	81.29%
Insurance/Pension	14,063,424	10,115,764	11,164,553	71.93%	78.37%
Food Services	8,896	8,896	8,896	100.00%	100.00%
Student Body Activities	759,306	448,541	406,756	59.07%	60.18%
Community Services	32,563	37,132	20,682	114.03%	63.51%
Equipment-New/Replace	78,000	78,000	88,984	100.00%	100.00%
Out of District Tuition	1,417,000	355,661	310,167	25.10%	21.89%
Total Public Budget	76,456,785	52,184,504	51,927,270	68.25%	70.28%
Total Non-Public Budget	574,034	407,171	411,356	70.93%	72.85%
Total General Fund	77,030,819	52,591,674	52,338,627	68.27%	70.30%

Instruction – The rate of spending is lower in the third quarter because of the timing of the first school year payroll, i.e. early September versus late August as in previous years. The reasons included the timing of the 27 payrolls for 2022-23 and also the timing of the return to school date for the instructional staff.

Transportation – Increase in rate of spending is due to an increased number of special education outplacements that require transportation. In addition, the district has seen a significant increase in fuel costs in the current year.

Maintenance of Plant and Equipment – Increase in rate of spending is due to the timing of maintenance projects and subsequent vendor payments. Maintenance costs that were put off in the prior year due to the spending freeze were completed early in this fiscal year.

Insurance and Pension – The rate of spending is lower than the prior year due to a change in accounting of health insurance costs; insurance costs will be allocated based on a 10-month school year versus a 12-month fiscal year.

Student Body Activities – Increase in rate of spending is due to an increased number of student clubs and activities being offered and pursued coming out of COVID.

Community Services – The rate of spending is higher than the prior year as school facilities are being rented out more often this year compared to the prior year. These expenditures represent the custodial overtime associated with the building rentals. We are reimbursed for the custodian’s time.

As of the date of this report, the Board of Education is anticipating a year-end deficit of about \$730,000. In an effort to mitigate this deficit, a spending and hiring freeze was immediately implemented. These actions are anticipated to generate savings of about \$400,000, mainly from the hiring freeze resulting in salaries and benefits savings. The remainder of the deficit is anticipated to be covered by additional Open Choice funding that was allocated to the District during the year.

Enrollment Comparison 2022-23 to 2021-22

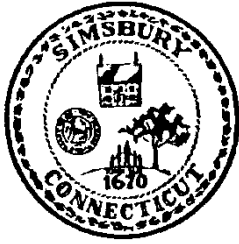
<u>Grade</u>	<u>Actual 10/1/2022</u>	<u>Actual 10/1/2021</u>	<u>Difference</u>
K-6	2176	2084	92
7-8	627	643	(16)
9-12	1261	1302	(41)
Total	4064	4029	35

Staffing Comparison (FTE)

	2022-23	2021-22	Difference
Certified	388.59	377.49	+11.10
Non-Certified	252.87	251.64	+1.23
Administrative	21	22	(1.00)
Total	662.46	651.13	+11.33

Non-Lapsing Fund Summary

Beginning Balance as of 6/30/2022	651,308
Capstone Coordinator	(93,242)
FY24 Use of Non-Lapsing	(353,700)
FY25 Use of Non-Lapsing	(138,700)
Ending Balance as of 6/30/2025	65,666



Town of Simsbury

933 Hopmeadow Street Simsbury, Connecticut 06070

Board of Finance Agenda Item Submission Form

1. **Title of Submission:** Approval of the Tax Collector Suspense List
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** May 16, 2023
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**
Amy Meriwether, Director of Finance; Colleen O'Connor, Tax Collector
4. **Action Requested of the Board of Finance:**
If the Board of Finance supports the recommendation of the Tax Collector, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective May 16, 2023, to approve the suspense list in the amount of \$46,775.37 and authorize Tax Collector, Colleen O'Connor to transfer these accounts to the Suspense Tax Book.
5. **Summary of Submission:**
Each year, a suspense list is prepared for taxes that are deemed uncollectible. Taxes may be placed in suspense for a variety of reasons, including uncollectible motor vehicle taxes resulting from a taxpayer moving out of state, motor vehicle taxes for deceased taxpayers, or taxes that are uncollectible due to a federal bankruptcy discharge.

Regular motor vehicle and supplemental motor vehicle taxes comprise most of the suspense list. Most of the accounts that the Tax Collector is requesting to be moved to the suspense list have moved out of town or out of state. All motor vehicle accounts are held at the Department of Motor Vehicles and the taxpayers who still live in Connecticut will not be able to register a car in the State until the taxes are paid.

All of the personal property taxes have been turned over to the State Marshal for collections.
6. **Financial Impact:**
If approved, \$46,775.37 will be placed in suspense. The accounts will remain collectible for 15 years.
7. **Description of Documents Included with Submission:**
 - Letter from Tax Collector with Suspense List



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

P.O. BOX 495

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Colleen O'Connor, CCMC - Tax Department

Lisa Heavner
Chairman
Board of Finance

RE: APPROVAL OF SUSPENSE LIST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 46,775.37

To the best of my knowledge and belief the tax shown is uncollectible and approval is requested to transfer these accounts to the Suspense Tax Book.

Respectfully submitted *Colleen O'Connor* Tax Collector
Colleen O'Connor

Approved by _____ Chairman
Lisa Heavner, BOARD OF FINANCE

Please sign and return
Copy to be filed with Town Clerk

DATE _____



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Colleen O'Connor, CCMC - Tax Department

May 1, 2023

Lisa Heavner
Chairman
Board of Finance

Dear Mrs. Heavner:

I am submitting to the Board of Finance the annual Suspense List, which I am asking the Board to approve in the amount of \$46,775.37

The regular motor vehicle and supplement motor vehicle taxes make up most of the Suspense List. This year the list is much smaller do to the fact that I only put out of town and out of state in suspense. All of the motor vehicle bills have been sent to the collection agency (TaxServ)

All of the Personal Property accounts have been turned over to the State Marshal for collections.

This year is the first year we have put a real estate bill in suspense. It's a small parcel owned by Landve Inc. The Grand List years are 2006 to 2021 which the town attorney suggested we put it in suspense.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call and we can discuss them.

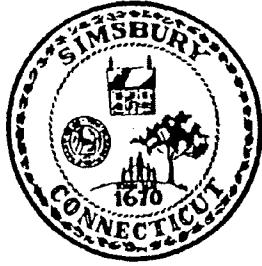
Sincerely,

Colleen O'Connor
Tax Collector

Telephone (860) 658-3238
Facsimile (860) 658-3285

coc Connor@simsbury-ct.gov
www.simsbury-ct.gov

An Equal Opportunity Employer
8:30 - 7:00 Monday
8:30 - 4:30 Tuesday through Thursday
8:30 - 1:00 Fridays



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Colleen O'Connor, CC MC
Tax Department

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY
SUSPENSE LIST
May 2023**

MOTOR VEHICLE REGULAR

LIST OF 2017	\$ 83.77
LIST OF 2018	\$ 270.20
LIST OF 2019	\$ 2,210.67
LIST OF 2020	\$ 23,507.46
TOTAL	\$26,072.10

MOTOR VEHICLE SUPPLEMENTAL

LIST OF 2020	\$ 7,985.11
TOTAL	\$ 7,985.11

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY
SUSPENSE
May 2023
PERSONAL PROPERTY**

LIST OF 2020	\$ 11,171.35
TOTAL	\$ 11,171.35

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY -SUSPENSE
MAY 2023- REAL ESTATE**

LIST OF 2006-2021	\$1,546.81
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**TOTAL SUSPENSE
\$ 46,775.37**

Telephone (860) 658-3238
Facsimile (860) 658-3285

cocconnor@simsbury-ct.gov
www.simsbury-ct.gov

An Equal Opportunity Employer
8:30 - 7:00 Monday
8:30 - 4:30 Tuesday through Thursday
Friday 8:30 - 1:00

Process Suspense Report

TOWN OF SIMSBURY Date: 05/01/2023 Time: 16:44:36

Condition (s): Year: , Type: 88 - MV/MVS, Order: Bill Number, Total Only: No, Recap by Dist: No

Town

Bill #	Dst Name	Code	Reason	Date	Town Due/Susp	Dist Due/Susp	Sewer Due/Susp	Total
2017-03-0071466	SULLIVAN MICHAEL N	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	83.77			83.77
	MOTOR VEHICLE							
	# Of Acct: 1							
YR : 2017	TOTAL : 1				83.77			
2018-03-0070978	LAWRENCE W MCGURKIN SPECIAL NEEDS	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	188.84			188.84
2018-03-0070987	SULLIVAN MICHAEL N	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	81.36			81.36
	MOTOR VEHICLE							270.20
	# Of Acct: 2							
YR : 2018	TOTAL : 2				270.20			
2019-03-0071168	DORFMAN KIM A	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	126.59			126.59
2019-03-0071179	KNIGHT CHRISTOPHER D JR	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	96.80			96.80
2019-03-0071185	MCFARLAND MARY A	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	84.94			84.94
2019-03-0071194	DOWNS KEVIN D	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	475.86			475.86
2019-03-0071195	WILSON BRITTANY	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	160.97			160.97
2019-03-0071197	SULLIVAN MICHAEL N	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	76.96			76.96
2019-03-0071199	DILDIN NIKOLAY	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	531.50			531.50
2019-03-0071200	SAMUELS MENACHEM M	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	376.46			376.46
2019-03-0071202	DILDIN NIKOLAY	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	55.82			55.82
2019-03-0071205	DELANEY JOY	13	WITH COLLECTION	AGEN05/01/2023	224.77			224.77
	MOTOR VEHICLE							2,210.67
	# Of Acct: 10							
YR : 2019	TOTAL : 10				2,210.67			
2020-03-0050323	ALFADHLI YOUSEF H	02	CANNOT LOCATE	05/01/2023	214.73			214.73
2020-03-0050393	ALMUTAIRI ABDULLAH M	02	CANNOT LOCATE	05/01/2023	533.09			533.09
2020-03-0050402	ALTENHEIN AARON R	02	CANNOT LOCATE	05/01/2023	19.43			19.43
2020-03-0050412	ALVAREZ ELVIS	02	CANNOT LOCATE	05/01/2023	287.31			287.31
2020-03-0050699	ARZU DAISY J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	557.78			557.78
2020-03-0050873	BAKHSH KHABBAB	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	135.05			135.05
2020-03-0050905	BAMBERG CLAIRE W	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	269.73			269.73
2020-03-0051346	BERGIN ANTHONY T	02	CANNOT LOCATE	05/01/2023	7.44			7.44
2020-03-0051347	BERGIN ANTHONY T	02	CANNOT LOCATE	05/01/2023	149.30			149.30
2020-03-0051528	BLACK ZANE B	02	CANNOT LOCATE	05/01/2023	321.35			321.35
2020-03-0051584	BLUE ROXANNE A	02	CANNOT LOCATE	05/01/2023	146.65			146.65
2020-03-0051846	BRACKEN KAREN L	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	10.44			10.44
2020-03-0052046	BROW CHRISTOPHER S	02	CANNOT LOCATE	05/01/2023	369.24			369.24
2020-03-0052047	BROW CHRISTOPHER S	02	CANNOT LOCATE	05/01/2023	301.90			301.90
2020-03-0052048	BROW CHRISTOPHER S	02	CANNOT LOCATE	05/01/2023	46.01			46.01
2020-03-0052156	BUCKLEY ELECTRIC CO	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	99.51			99.51
2020-03-0052176	BUDDE RYAN W	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	392.81			392.81
2020-03-0052211	BUNN KIMBERLY A	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	756.80			756.80
2020-03-0052793	CASORIO KELLYLYN	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	386.82			386.82
2020-03-0053018	CHANDLER DEVON H	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	56.49			56.49
2020-03-0053043	CHAPMAN SAGE M	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	147.40			147.40
2020-03-0053450	COLLAZO REBECCA M	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	171.71			171.71
2020-03-0054185	DAMBROSIO JAMES M	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	570.88			570.88
2020-03-0054334	DEFEO JOSEPH A	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	314.68			314.68
2020-03-0054392	DELEON LYNNETTE C	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	161.61			161.61
2020-03-0054535	DESCHAMPS GUERRERO MAYKE E	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	396.92			396.92
2020-03-0054635	DIGNOTI JADE L	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	18.71			18.71
2020-03-0054636	DIGNOTI JADE L	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	89.04			89.04
2020-03-0054983	DUFFY DEIDRE E	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	63.60			63.60
2020-03-0056169	FROEHLICH ERIC W	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	144.03			144.03

Process Suspense Report

TOWN OF SIMSBURY Date: 05/01/2023 Time: 16:44:36

Page: 2

Condition (s): Year: , Type: 88 - MV/MVS, Order: Bill Number, Total Only: No, Recap by Dist: No

Bill #	Dst Name	Code	Reason	Date	Town Due/Susp	Dist Due/Susp	Sewer Due/Susp	Total
2020-03-0056217	GABRIELE ANTHONY M	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	491.19			
2020-03-0056536	GEORGE CHRISTOPHER M	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	18.71			
2020-03-0057137	GREITEN PATRICK J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	353.52			
2020-03-0057138	GREITEN PATRICK J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	146.27			
2020-03-0057276	GUIEL VINCENT S	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	127.57			
2020-03-0057770	HENAO STEPHANIE	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	234.93			
2020-03-0058072	HOLMES JAYVAN D	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	575.37			
2020-03-0058489	HURLEY ALLISON M	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	334.07			
2020-03-0058893	JOHNSON JOANNE N	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	58.36			
2020-03-0058994	JOYCE BRANDIE K	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	121.96			
2020-03-0059001	JOYNER CAMILIA N	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	123.83			
2020-03-0059002	JOYNER CAMILIA N	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	386.45			
2020-03-0059003	JOYNER CAMILIA N	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	182.19			
2020-03-0059696	KING BRIAN E	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	1,562.62			
2020-03-0059741	KLEMONSKY JAMES P	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	111.86			
2020-03-0059761	KNEELAND MATTHEW T	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	382.33			
2020-03-0059796	KOBYLARZ TROY R	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	826.39			
2020-03-0060192	LAMBSON MARK R	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	145.52			
2020-03-0060193	LAMBSON REBECCA H	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	108.86			
2020-03-0061302	MAHMOUD SAM	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	18.71			
2020-03-0061491	MARINE CHRISTOPHER T	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	109.24			
2020-03-0061563	MARTIN DANIELLE M	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	332.57			
2020-03-0061586	MARTINEZ ANGEL A	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	121.21			
2020-03-0061668	MASTRANGELO JOYCE K	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	197.90			
2020-03-0061763	MAYOCK LOUISA A	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	75.19			
2020-03-0061821	MCCAMISH STEVEN D	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	643.08			
2020-03-0062159	MEJIA-DUBON HECTOR O	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	93.53			
2020-03-0062220	MENDES MARC A	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	406.65			
2020-03-0062613	MONTGOMERY DALTON P	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	145.52			
2020-03-0062614	MONTGOMERY KRystal N	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	492.32			
2020-03-0062665	MORALES VANESSA M	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	417.12			
2020-03-0062711	MORIN RICHARD A	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	129.06			
2020-03-0062727	MORRIS DEBORAH L	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	233.81			
2020-03-0062754	MORSE JUSTIN J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	18.71			
2020-03-0062755	MORSE JUSTIN J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	51.25			
2020-03-0063092	BATES KYLIE J	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	156.37			
2020-03-0063508	NOWAK PETER	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	184.81			
2020-03-0063707	OMOHUNDRO BARRY A	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	99.51			
2020-03-0064506	PIETERSE ANDREW J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	563.77			
2020-03-0065065	RANSOM AIMEE	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	170.22			
2020-03-0065066	RANSOM AIMEE	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	88.29			
2020-03-0065453	ROBERTS SEAN A	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	97.64			
2020-03-0065908	RYAN MEGAN E	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	126.45			
2020-03-0066079	SALVADOR LEOBEL J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	402.94			
2020-03-0066095	SAMPSON RAWLSTON J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	135.42			
2020-03-0066459	SCOTT HEATHER J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	170.96			
2020-03-0066880	SIKORSKI MARK	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	80.06			
2020-03-0067194	SMITH KAYLA M	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	145.52			
2020-03-0067195	SMITH KAYLA M	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	247.65			
2020-03-0067735	SUBRAMANYAM MYTHREYI	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	581.35			
2020-03-0068013	TAYLOR ASHLYNN J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	366.62			
2020-03-0068251	TIAGO JOSEPH A	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	59.48			
2020-03-0069027	VAUGHN RYAN F	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	185.93			
2020-03-0069180	VERBA DANIELLE M	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	427.60			
2020-03-0069205	VERTEFEUILLE JUSTIN K	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	324.72			
2020-03-0069206	VERTEFEUILLE JUSTIN K	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	551.42			

Process Suspense Report

TOWN OF SIMSBURY Date: 05/01/2023 Time: 16:44:37

Condition (s): Year: , Type: 88 - MV/MVS, Order: Bill Number, Total Only: No, Recap by Dist: No

Bill #	Dst Name	Code	Reason	Date	Town Due/Susp	Dist Due/Susp	Sewer Due/Susp	Total
2020-03-0069279	VOEGTLE ERIC E	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	12.49			
2020-03-0069280	VOEGTLE ERIC E	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	131.98			
2020-03-0069469	WAITE CLAIRE B	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	123.83			
2020-03-0069957	WILLIAMS KADIJAH K	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	93.15			
2020-03-0069958	WILLIAMS KADIJAH K	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	239.80			
2020-03-0070004	WILSON LINDSAY A	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	109.24			
2020-03-0070323	ZAPOLSKI KANDI K	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	290.68			
2020-03-0070672	NEWTON DUANE H 3RD	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	87.91			
2020-03-0070729	ZINN HANNAH L	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	252.89			
2020-03-0070762	SPARKS JUDITH	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	80.43			
MOTOR VEHICLE	# Of Acct: 96				23,507.46			
2020-04-0080088	ALVAREZ ELVIS	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	32.51			
2020-04-0080147	ARQUETTE JANESE C	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	52.41			
2020-04-0080148	ARQUETTE JUSTIN T	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	96.41			
2020-04-0080156	ARZU DAISY J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	388.91			
2020-04-0080202	BALBONI NICHOLAS D	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	91.65			
2020-04-0080204	BALDINO KELLEY E	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	122.14			
2020-04-0080303	BERGIN ANTHONY T	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	81.55			
2020-04-0080349	BLACK ZANE B	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	424.79			
2020-04-0080367	BOARDMAN PETER W	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	433.58			
2020-04-0080392	BOURQUE PETER R JR	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	257.38			
2020-04-0080572	CASTAGNO JOE M	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	690.21			
2020-04-0080652	CHASE ASHLEY N	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	172.09			
2020-04-0080724	COLLAZO REBECCA M	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	87.54			
2020-04-0081111	ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY CON	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	210.99			
2020-04-0081112	ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY CON	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	106.62			
2020-04-0081237	FLORES FERNANDO A	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	178.82			
2020-04-0081334	GARCIA LORIAL M	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	203.06			
2020-04-0081374	GIEBFRIED KASEY M	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	218.85			
2020-04-0081788	HOWELL JAMAL A	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	185.37			
2020-04-0082229	LECLAIRE LAWN CARE	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	96.07			
2020-04-0082348	LUTZ CHRISTOPHER J	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	239.80			
2020-04-0082647	MORSE JUSTIN J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	21.85			
2020-04-0082868	OUIMETTE SEAN G	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	301.15			
2020-04-0082869	OUIMETTE SEAN G	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	76.58			
2020-04-0083145	RESTO TRUCKING LLC	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	751.94			
2020-04-0083262	RUCHIN MICHAEL J	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	219.97			
2020-04-0083263	RUCHIN MICHAEL J	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	157.20			
2020-04-0083300	SAMPSON RAWLSTON J	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	595.94			
2020-04-0083523	SMITH WAYNE A JR	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	37.52			
2020-04-0083581	STONE KEVIN	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	530.81			
2020-04-0083883	VAZ PINTOGUIMARAESLOBATO FRANCISCO	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	90.46			
2020-04-0083919	VENEZIANO MARC V	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	42.27			
2020-04-0084044	WEST HARTFORD ROCKS LLC	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	48.63			
2020-04-0084102	WILSON LINDSAY A	10	MOVED OUT OF TOWN	05/01/2023	652.13			
2020-04-0084140	WOOTEN ROBERT L	07	MOVED OUT OF STATE	05/01/2023	87.91			
MOTOR VEHICLE SUPPLEMENTAL	# Of Acct: 35				7,985.11			
YR : 2020	TOTAL : 131				31,492.57			

Grand Total: 144

34,057.21

Process Suspense Report

Town

TOWN OF SIMSBURY Date: 05/01/2023 Time: 16:53:03
 Condition (s): Year: , Type: 02 - PP, Order: Bill Number, Total Only: No, Recap by Dist: No

Bill #	Dst	Name	Code	Reason	Date	Town Due/Susp	Dist Due/Susp	Sewer Due/Susp	Total
2020-02-0040145		BUCKLEY ELECTRIC & AUTOMATION LLC	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	777.76			
2020-02-0040151		C B MASONRY & LANDSCAPE LLC	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	155.64			
2020-02-0040155		CACCIES BRIDAL CLOSET LLC	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	155.64			
2020-02-0040190	1	CHIMNEY AND MASONARY SERVICES LLC	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	220.72			
2020-02-0040216		COMMAND AUTO LLC	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	155.44			
2020-02-0040292		DTT INC	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	571.62			
2020-02-0040317		ENERGY EFFICIENCY & SUSTAINABILITY CONSU11	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	77.81			
2020-02-0040338		FARMINGTON VALLEY PARTNERS LLC	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	77.81			
2020-02-0040401		HAPPYFROYO LLC	05	OUT OF BUSINESS	05/01/2023	1,043.34			
2020-02-0040435		HOPMEADOW ASSOCIATES LLC	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	310.88			
2020-02-0040452		HYBRID 6 FITNESS LLC	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	622.14			
2020-02-0040471		JB AUTO CARE MANAGEMENT LLC	05	OUT OF BUSINESS	05/01/2023	802.08			
2020-02-0040491		KCC TEXTILES LLC	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	77.81			
2020-02-0040492		KEARNS MICHAEL	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	155.64			
2020-02-0040514		LAMOTHE NOAH	05	OUT OF BUSINESS	05/01/2023	77.81			
2020-02-0040674		PET VALU INC 5511	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	2,108.44			
2020-02-0040707	1	PSANIS MARIA M.A.	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	29.55			
2020-02-0040758		RYAN MARTIN FOUNDATION	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	47.88			
2020-02-0040779		SEPT-ONE LLC	11	WARRANT-WITH STATE	M05/01/2023	692.46			
2020-02-0040886	1	TORPEDOES SMOKE SHOP LLC	05	OUT OF BUSINESS	05/01/2023	242.90			
2020-02-0040994		ZOO GYM SIMSBURY LLC	05	OUT OF BUSINESS	05/01/2023	2,767.98			
PERSONAL PROPERTY # Of Acct: 21						11,171.35			
YR : 2020 TOTAL : 21						11,171.35			
Grand Total: 21						11,171.35			

Process Suspense Report

TOWN OF SIMSBURY Date: 05/01/2023

Time: 16:56:15

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Condition (s): Year: , Type: 01 - RE, Order: Bill Number, Total Only: No, Recap by Dist: No

Bill #	Dst Name	Code Reason	Date	Town Due/Susp	Dist Due/Susp	Sewer Due/Susp	Total
2006-01-0004633 1	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	15.87			
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1			15.87			
YR : 2006	TOTAL : 1			15.87			
2007-01-0004332 1	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	180.26			
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1			180.26			
YR : 2007	TOTAL : 1			180.26			
2008-01-0004329 1	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	183.32			
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1			183.32			
YR : 2008	TOTAL : 1			183.32			
2009-01-0004343 1	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	186.06			
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1			186.06			
YR : 2009	TOTAL : 1			186.06			
2010-01-0004359 1	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	187.94			
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1			187.94			
YR : 2010	TOTAL : 1			187.94			
2011-01-0004356 1	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	191.04			
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1			191.04			
YR : 2011	TOTAL : 1			191.04			
2012-01-0004336	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	178.62			
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1			178.62			
YR : 2012	TOTAL : 1			178.62			
2013-01-0004367	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	177.90			
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1			177.90			
YR : 2013	TOTAL : 1			177.90			
2014-01-0004386	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	177.80			
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1			177.80			
YR : 2014	TOTAL : 1			177.80			
2015-01-0004396	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	9.65			
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1			9.65			
YR : 2015	TOTAL : 1			9.65			
2016-01-0004360	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	10.08			
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1			10.08			

Process Suspense Report

TOWN OF SIMSBURY Date: 05/01/2023

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Page: 2

Condition (s): Year: , Type: 01 - RE, Order: Bill Number, Total Only: No, Recap by Dist: No

Bill #	Dst Name	Code Reason	Date	Town Due/Susp	Dist Due/Susp	Sewer Due/Susp	Total
YR : 2016	TOTAL : 1						10.08
2017-01-0004362	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	9.47			9.47
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1						9.47
YR : 2017	TOTAL : 1						9.47
2018-01-0004375	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	9.70			9.70
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1						9.70
YR : 2018	TOTAL : 1						9.70
2019-01-0004416	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	9.64			9.64
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1						9.64
YR : 2019	TOTAL : 1						9.64
2020-01-0004420	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	9.73			9.73
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1						9.73
YR : 2020	TOTAL : 1						9.73
2021-01-0004435	LANDEV INC		05/01/2023	9.73			9.73
REAL ESTATE	# Of Acct: 1						9.73
YR : 2021	TOTAL : 1						9.73
Grand Total: 16							1,546.81



Town of Simsbury

933 Hopmeadow Street Simsbury, Connecticut 06070

Board of Finance Agenda Item Submission Form

1. **Title of Submission:** Appointment of the Auditor for FY 2022/2023 Audit
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** May 16, 2023
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**
Amy Meriwether, Director of Finance
4. **Action Requested of the Board of Finance:**
If the Board of Finance supports the appointment of the FY 2022/2023 audit firm, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective May 16, 2023, to appoint CliftonLarsonAllen LLP as the Town of Simsbury's auditors for the fiscal year ending 2022/2023.
5. **Summary of Submission:**
Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S 7-396 and 4-232) require that the appointing authority of any municipality or audited agency to annually file with the Secretary of the Office of Policy Management (OPM) the name of the independent auditor designated to conduct the annual audit of its accounts. The notification must be made at least thirty days prior to the end of the fiscal period for which the audit is required.

The Town of Simsbury issued an RFQ for auditing services on August 28, 2018. A panel consisting of Town staff in conjunction with the Board of Finance Chair interviewed selected firms and made the decision to remain with auditing firm, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP (formerly Blum Shapiro).

The Town had contracted with CliftonLarsonAllen LLP for three years with the option to extend for two additional years. The fiscal year 2022/2023 audit will be Year 5 of the current contract.
6. **Financial Impact:**
None
7. **Description of Documents Included with Submission:**
None



Town of Simsbury

933 Hopmeadow Street Simsbury, Connecticut 06070

Board of Finance Agenda Item Submission Form

1. **Title of Submission:** Setting of the FY 2023/2024 Mill Rate

2. **Date of Board Meeting:** May 16, 2023

3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**

Amy Meriwether, Director of Finance

4. **Action Requested of the Board of Finance:**

If the Board of Finance supports a mill rate of 30.82 mills, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective May 16, 2023, to set the mill rate for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 at 30.82 mills.

5. **Summary of Submission:**

Pursuant to Simsbury Charter Section 406, the Town of Simsbury held its annual budget referendum on May 16, 2023. Residents voted on the following expenditures:

Operating Budgets

Board of Selectmen Budget - \$31,679,397

Board of Education Budget - \$81,576,437

Sewer Use Fund (Sewer Treatment Plant), Residential Rental Properties, Simsbury Farms, Non-Public Schools, Debt Retirement/Capital and Capital Non-Recurring Budgets - \$17,149,930

The final step in the budget making process is for the Board of Finance to formally set the mill rate for FY23/24. The proposed mill rate identified during the budget process was 30.82 mills.

6. **Financial Impact:**

The current FY22/23 Town mill rate is set at 37.41 mills. If the Board of Finance approves the proposed mill rate of 30.82 for the Town, this will be a revised mill rate for the Town of Simsbury of 30.82 mills, which is a decrease of 6.59 mills or 17.62%. The significant decrease in mill rate is a result of the revaluation that took place, effective for the 10/1/22 grand list which resets property valuations and their corresponding assessments. The majority of Simsbury property values increased on average by 27% which translates to an increase in estimated taxes for the median value home of \$415.

7. **Description of Documents Included with Submission:**

- FY 2023/2024 Budget Levy Calculation Worksheet

**Town of Simsbury
Levy Calculation Worksheet
Board of Finance Approved Budget
FY2023/24**

	<u>FY2022/23 Budget</u>	<u>FY2023/24 Projected</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Town Operating Budget	\$ 25,743,871	\$ 27,576,476	\$ 1,832,605	7.12%
Operating Transfers	4,516,481	4,102,921	(413,560)	-9.16%
Total Town Budget	<u>30,260,353</u>	<u>31,679,397</u>	1,419,044	4.69%
School Operating Budget	76,456,786	81,576,437	5,119,651	6.70%
Non-Public School Budget	574,034	605,699	31,665	5.52%
Debt Service & Capital	7,670,099	7,806,810	136,711	1.78%
Gross Expenditures	<u>114,961,272</u>	<u>121,668,343</u>	6,707,071	5.83%
Anticipated Revenue	<u>16,772,998</u>	<u>17,154,066</u>	381,068	2.27%
Total Revenue and Approp of Fund Balance	16,772,998	17,154,066	381,068	2.27%
Net Expenditures	<u>\$ 98,188,274</u>	<u>\$ 104,514,277</u>	<u>\$ 6,326,003</u>	<u>6.44%</u>

Mill Rate Calculation

Property Taxes				
Supplemental Auto	1,600,000	1,100,000		
Property Taxes	88,646,228	94,547,022		
Car Taxes	7,942,046	8,867,255		
Total Property Taxes	<u>98,188,274</u>	<u>104,514,277</u>		
Net Grand List (non-vehicle)	2,405,671,475	3,114,056,830		
Tax Collection Rate	98.50%	98.50%		
Mill Rate	37.41	30.82	(6.59)	-17.62%
Fire	1.22	1.00	(0.22)	-18.03%
Total Mill Rate	38.63	31.82	(6.81)	-17.63%
Median Home Impact	8,016	8,431	415	5.18%

Board of Finance
TOWN OF SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 5:45 P.M.
In Person Meeting /Simsbury Community Media Live Stream

PRESENT:

Mike Doyle, Lisa Heavner, Robert Helfand, Arthur House, Derek Peterson, and Linda Schofield

ALSO PRESENT:

Amy Meriwether, Director of Finance; Nick Boulter, Chief of Police; Orlando Casiano, Parks Department; Jenna Caulfield, Chair of the Police Commission; Brian Johnson, Golf Course Superintendent; Lisa Karim, Library Director; Amber Abbuhl, Deputy First Selectman; Wendy Mackstutis, First Selectman; and Eric Wellman, Selectman

1. Call to Order - Establish Quorum

Ms. Heavner called the meeting to order at 5:45 P.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Heavner providing an overview of the goal of the meeting and the budget process. She said there will be no cuts to the Board of Education or Board of Selectmen budgets at this week's meetings, and they will be presented at the Public Hearing meeting on April 4th for citizen input before any final action is taken by the Board of Finance. She added that after citizen input the Board of Finance may accept or amend the budgets prior to sending them to referendum for citizen vote. She said this year the budgets are calling for new spending that is greater than expected revenue, which is resulting in a proposed increase in the range of 5.93%, which is the largest increase in many years. This tax increase effects most but not all residences. She added that although the anticipated mill rate of 32.04 is lower than last year due to the revaluation, 90% of homeowners will see an increase in taxes because the town is spending more. She provided information on the revaluation and explained that some homes will have higher taxes and about 1 in 10 will see a tax reduction depending on the appraisal. She added there will be an increase in Debt Service, the annual cost of the Town's borrowing for Capital projects and said the modeling does project tax increases for the next few years and they will be talking about steps and strategies they can take now to help mitigate these increases.

3. Presentation: Board of Selectman 2023/2024 Budget

Ms. Mackstutis reviewed the Board of Selectman budget presentation which started off with listing their priorities. She presented on the FY23/34 revenue assumptions, showed the levy calculator worksheet, a comparison between this year and last year, and an overview and key items that effected this year's budget numbers.

The presentation continued with options to approach reducing debt service and Ms. Mackstutis presented their approved spending requests for service improvements. Ms. Schofield had a question on the mechanic which led to a conversation on the use of outside services versus in-house. Ms. Heavner asked for numbers associated with this for the April meeting. Ms. Heavner

asked Ms. Meriwether to look into whether the consulting services for Engineering can be charged to the capital project as opposed to the operating expenses.

Ms. Mackstutis continued with their presentation, and the Board of Finance asked follow up questions on the services requested which were addressed. Mr. Wellman said the service improvements requests are just allowing the Police, Parks, and Public Works to maintain the level of service that the community has grown to expect. Ms. Mackstutis reviewed where they made reductions and other additions and a discussion followed on Police holiday pay, overtime and hiring. The board asked further questions on the line items presented, which were addressed.

Ms. Mackstutis presented a list of the proposed ARPA themed funding uses. Some items were elaborated and questions from the Board of Finance were addressed. Ms. Schofield asked about the longer-term plan for the Simsbury Ambulance and Ms. Mackstutis said they will be looking into this. Mr. Peterson asked for more information on the Flower Bridge as it is such a large amount of the total and Ms. Mackstutis explained it is one of the gems in the town, used by a lot of people.

Ms. Mackstutis continued with a list of capital improvements and where the funding came from for the current year, highlighting new projects. Ms. Meriwether was asked to follow up with more details from Mr. Roy on the fluctuation of number on the Pavement of Roads project. Mr. House asked for information on the Meadowood Barn restoration project and added they are sheds that are falling apart as opposed to barns. He asked if the planks where the historic signatures can be saved as opposed to the barns themselves. Mr. Casiano said the planks have been removed and are in storage and Mr. Wellman provided further information on the reason the barns should be restored. Mr. House was not in agreement.

Ms. Heavner asked about the timing of the appropriation on the Climax Road bridge and was concerned it was on the list before the grant was approved. Ms. Meriwether said they would not be starting the project until they knew they had the grant money, and that she would look into the timeline. Ms. Mackstutis provided information on the East Coast Greenway and the associated grants. Mr. Casiano provided information on the Golf Course Irrigation project additional funding. Ms. Meriwether said she would consult with bond council as to whether it needed to be a separate question on the referendum. Ms. Mackstutis reviewed the CNR funded projects and addressed questions from the Board. A conversation followed on the electric vehicle charging stations cost and usage and the crosswalk safety improvements project. Mr. Casiano and Mr. Roy spoke about the Public Works and Parks and Rec projects. Mr. Johnson and Chief Boulter spoke about the police projects and addressed questions from the board. Ms. Heavner asked if the recurring expense of replacing the library computers could be added as operating expense and Ms. Meriwether agreed.

Ms. Heavner and Ms. Meriwether reviewed the numbers and the summary of the budget. Ms. Heavner explained there was a decrease in the mill rate and an increase in the tax rate due to the revaluation. Ms. Heavner provided an overview of the numbers in comparison to other local towns. Ms. Meriwether reviewed the levy calculator numbers and reviewed the impact on various home values. She looked at various numbers to show what could happen under various scenarios. Ms. Heavner explained that the Board of Finance looks at the timing of a project to

see when is the best time to do it and added if they can get debt service down it helps out every other budget.

Ms. Meriwether provided information on year-end projected savings. She said she will review again in April once she has more information available. Ms. Meriwether reviewed the fund balances and addressed questions from the Board. Ms. Schofield asked for more information on how the Boards came up with their utility estimates and asked if they can include what assumptions are based on going forward so it's more uniform across departments. She also asked about the business personal property audits. Ms. Meriwether stated that Francine will look into this before the end of the year, and she added that the best practice analyses has moved to the top of the list now that the revaluation is complete.

Ms. Schofield said they are looking at a significant change in the pattern in tax increases from past years and asked how this will be communicated to the public. Ms. Heavner said she will do a draft communication and share with the board for review before it gets sent out to the public. She added the information will be on the Town website and Ms. Mackstutis said she will have their budget on there also. Ms. Mackstutis asked if the budget details can be included in the legal notice advising the public of the public hearing date and time. Ms. Heavner checked if there is an email address for the public to submit comments and said they welcome that and Ms. Meriwether confirmed its listed on the website.

Ms. Heavner asked whether bonding is required or not on the Simsbury Performing Arts Center as it was listed differently in the packet. Mr. Peterson had a question on the grand list chart and spoke about the mill rate saying it's not just about this year and spending overall needs to be cut back this year and future years to make Simsbury an attractive town to live in. Members of the Board added comments on the budget and how it affects future years and taxes.

Ms. Heavner provided a summary of the discussion and asked that the Board of Selectman identify \$150K in budget cuts. She asked Ms. Meriwether to provide hard recommendations in April to reduce debt service. She added that it was not a mandate, and the public will have an opportunity to give feedback at the public hearing before changes are made. A conversation followed on the state cap and Ms. Meriwether will be reaching out to council prior to the April meeting to make sure they have something in writing confirming that they are not putting any funding at risk. Mr. Peterson asked for a 15% budget reduction of the proposed increase and asked that \$2M – 2.5M be pushed out in Capital Projects. Ms. Schofield clarified that the request is to reduce the budget numbers between \$150K and \$236K.

Ms. Heaver stated they are keeping an eye on the Education Bill which would bring in about \$2.2M to the town if it passes, and there may also be extra revenues from the Special Education Bill. Mr. House added that the Board of Selectman should also include their priorities in case they are unable to fund everything. A conversation followed on the timing of the presentations, delivery of the updated numbers, the next steps, and the overall budget pressures. Ms. Heavner asked Ms. Meriwether to send copy of the non-lasting fund balance. She added that the Board of Finance is just evaluating the budgets at this time, and they will be going to public hearing for the public to weigh in before any adjustments are made.

5. Adjourn

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective March 21, 2023, to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 P.M. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion Lynott
Commission Clerk

Board of Finance
TOWN OF SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 5:45 P.M.
In Person Meeting /Simsbury Community Media Live Stream

PRESENT:

Lisa Heavner, Mike Doyle, Robert Helfand, Arthur House, Derek Peterson, and Linda Schofield.

ALSO PRESENT:

Amy Meriwether, Finance Director; Matthew Curtis, Superintendent, Sue Lemke, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning; Neil Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent of Administration; Jason Casey, Director of Infrastructure & Technology; Tom Fitzgerald, Acting Deputy Town Manager; Nick Boulter, Chief of Police; Tom Roy, Director of Public Works/Town Engineer; Lisa Karim, Library Director; Tom Tyburski, Director of Culture, Parks & Recreation; Orlando Casiano, Parks Superintendent; Brian Johnson, Golf Course Superintendent; Jenna Caulfield, Chair of the Police Commission; Michael Long, Police Commission; Wendy Mackstutis, First Selectman; Amber Abbuhl, Deputy First Selectman; Board of Selectman Heather Goetz, Selectman; Eric Wellman, Selectman; Susan Salina, Chair, Board of Education; Tara Willerup, Board of Education; Jen Batchelor, Board of Education

1. Call to Order - Establish Quorum

Ms. Heavner called the meeting to order at 5:45 P.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Presentation of the FY23/24 Budget Process and Overview

MOTION: Mr. House made a motion, effective April 4, 2023, to continue the Public Hearing to April 18, 2023 at 5:45 P.M. in the Town Hall meeting room. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Heavner presented on the budget process and gave an overview of the next steps. She explained the role the Board of Finance plays. She said the board must present to the public a balanced budget and said this year's proposed expenditures total \$121,948,062 with 67% of the spending towards Education, 26% for Town services and 7% for Debt Services. She reviewed the specifics of the proposed budgets which showed a total of over \$7M on new spending which she added is the largest spending they've had in recent years.

Ms. Heavner reviewed the items the Town proposes to be funded through fees and major grants which does not impact property taxes and provided an overview of the long-term obligations which make up about 10% of the budget. She reviewed the major capital projects and said the estimated mill rate is 32.04 and estimated medium tax increase is 5.94%. Ms. Heavner then explained why the taxes are going up, and explained how the change in home values will impact taxes. She added that as a result of the revaluation some houses will have higher taxes and some will have lower and provided details about how that process worked. She reviewed historical tax data, outlined who pays taxes, reviewed the debt service allocation between the town and Board

of Education, and provided at look at how Simsbury is borrowing in comparison to other Connecticut towns. She reviewed the fiscal health of the town and mentioned that rating agencies have rated the town as fiscally strong with a Aaa rating. She reviewed population and enrollment trends and reminded the public where local tax relief is available.

4. Presentation of the Proposed FY23/24 Board of Education and Board of Selectmen Operating and Capital Budgets

Ms. Salina presented on the approved Board of Education budget highlighting their strategic priorities and said their proposed budget this year came in at \$82,182,136, a 6.69% increase over last year's operating costs. She reviewed the Board of Education's approved budget versus the fixed cost analysis. She said the budget does not include the \$300K CNR request for buses and said they had reduced their proposed budget by over \$2M since they first presented it during the budget workshops. Ms. Salina reviewed the per-pupil expenditure and enrollment projections. She highlighted the main budget drivers which included contractual obligations, enrollment driven staffing, market driven increases and prior year budgetary deficits.

Mr. Casey spoke about the proposed capital project improvements which included the Tariffville School Modular Classroom Replacement and the district-wide Security Improvements. He said the total capital replacements totaled \$750K.

Ms. Mackstutis presented the approved Board of Selectmen budget and outlined how they determined the budget and what was included in it. She highlighted the Board of Selectman's goals and priorities and the many meetings and discussions they attended to determine the numbers presented. She mentioned that new growth without revaluation is \$2,039,834 or 2.45%, reviewed the grand list and mill rate changes over the past 20 years, and presented the FY 23/24 revenue assumptions. She provided an overview of the budget and the FY23/24 debt service reduction approach and the associated savings by using the ARPA themed funds.

Ms. Mackstutis reviewed the service improvements that were included in the budget numbers, and outlined the additional departmental requests which were not funded this year. She reviewed other reductions and additions and provided more insight into the projects funded through the American Rescue Plan ACT (ARPA) themed funds which totaled \$3,261,07. She reviewed the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects and an overall chart view of the funding for all the projects.

Ms. Mackstutis reviewed the Capital Non-Recurring funded projects which included \$946,380 for Public Works/Engineering; \$366,359 for Parks and Recreation; \$6,800 for the library; \$225,000 for Water Pollution Control; \$451,542 for Police; and \$449,950 for General Government projects.

5. Public Hearing on FY23/24 Operating and Capital Budgets

1. Jan Lintner, Chair of the Old Drake Hill Flower Bridge, spoke in favor of funding improvements to the flower Bridge and overall maintenance. She also spoke in favor of the proposed additional staff to the Parks and Recreation department.

2. Sharene Wassell, past co-chair of the Old Drake Hill Flower Bridge, and currently on the Board of Directors, spoke in favor of funding for repairs, painting, and maintenance of the flower bridge.
3. Deeg MacKay spoke in favor of funding for repairs, painting, and maintenance of the Old Drake Hill Flower Bridge.
4. Jerry Lintner, 22 Massaco Street, spoke about the impact of the Old Drake Hill Flower Bridge, the partnerships with businesses in town, and presented a flyer with a map of the town with all the supporting restaurants.
5. Justine Medic, 8 Lawton Drive, spoke in opposition to the removal of the librarian from the Latimer Lane School and urged the board to consider other areas that would not have such a large impact when considering budget cuts.
6. David Bush, 4 Katherine Lanes, commended the good work done on preparing the budget, and asked that the Parks Maintainer and Program Coordinator positions be funded. Mr. Bush also spoke in favor of maintaining the two historic barns as the town spoke loud and clear to fund that property initially.
7. Gary N Wilcox, 19 Oakwood Road, spoke in favor of the Simsbury SVA ambulance budget request, which would allow them to continue their current level of service. He provided information and data to support his request. He also spoke in favor of the SVA's request for the elimination of \$75K debt on the recent radio improvements.
8. Jim Baldis, 16 Deepwood Road, spoke in favor of the Fire Departments request to use ARPA money to fund the replacement of 2 generators stating they are both at the end of life and are in need of replacement.
9. Lori Boyko, 15 Oakhurst Rd, voiced her concerns in relation to increases not just in this year's budget but the following years. She spoke about the various incomes of residents in town, and the hardships an increase in tax could cause. She added the Boards should take a look at wants versus needs, especially for the Board of Education, as it has the largest spending. She provided information to support her concerns.
10. David Richman, 52 Wood Duck Lane, provided a suggestion to help reduce town costs by reaching out to the businesses who live in the community for their services and products. He provided some examples and suggested thinking outside of the box.
11. Nord E Christensen, 35 W Mountain Rd, spoke in favor of all the projects mentioned in the budget but was not in favor of the reevaluation increases. He said he appealed his revaluation and received zero consideration. He spoke about where the money is coming from and asked the town to consider the people working to generate the money that's being spent by everyone.
12. Borden Schofield, 37 Northgate, voiced his concerns related to the tax increases and added as a retiree he and his group of retirees don't use many services and contribute a lot of money to the town.

Ms. Heavner thanked the public for the emails received related to the budget and said they were grouped into various categories including the Latimer library media specialist position, concerns about taxes being too high, concerns about funding the electric charging station, support for business relief programs using ARPA themed funding, and support for the flower bridge.

Ms. Heavner added from a process standpoint that the Board of Finance approves a bottom-line dollar amount for the education budget and does not decide how the Board of Education spend those dollars. She reminded the public that there are two opportunities for public audience

during the budget process and asked for additional information to be available for the next public hearing meeting.

6. Budget Discussion and Possible Action

Ms. Meriwether reviewed the details of the budget and spoke about how the numbers in the budget were calculated. She reviewed the impact on future years based on various assumptions. Various scenarios and assumptions were reviewed and discussed to show the impact on taxes and the mill rate and addressed questions from the Board. Ms. Heavner spoke about the savings being generated by the Board of Selectman by reducing the borrowing amount in debt service. Mr. Peterson asked for the cost of debt assumption numbers and Ms. Heavner asked for the recent budget model which has those numbers included to be emailed so the board can manipulate the numbers before the next meeting. Ms. Heavner said they will have a better idea on where the Board of Education's projections will be at the next meeting. Ms. Heavner opened a discussion on how the board would like to use reserves best and the board provided their thoughts on this.

Ms. Heavner asked Ms. Meriwether to put together additional scenarios for the budget and summarized the next steps. She added they are waiting on the status of the Education Bill and a discussion followed on the state mandates in association with it. Ms. Heavner spoke about the possibility of needing a second referendum in November for supplemental appropriations and said they should have better information in April in terms of year end projections.

The Board asked further questions, discussed options and scenarios, and said they are limited as to what they can do. She reiterated Mr. House's point that the budgets come to the Board of Finance and about 70% – 80% of expenditures are legally obligated.

Ms. Schofield raised a concern about public awareness and asked if the budget and public hearing information can made easy to find on the website. Mr. Peterson added that they should inform them that the Public Hearing has been extended.

7. Approval of Minutes

February 27, 2023

March 1, 2023

March 7, 2023

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 4, 2023, to approve the minutes from February 27, 2023, March 1, 2023, and March 7, 2023 meetings with non-substantive and grammatical changes as submitted. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Adjourn/Recess

MOTION: Mr. House made a motion, effective April 4, 2023, to amend the continuation of the Budget Public Hearing meeting to April 18, 2023 at 6 P.M. Mr. Doyle seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. House made a motion, effective April 4, 2023, to recess the Budget Public Hearing until April 18, 2023. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion Lynott
Commission Clerk

Meriwether Amy

From: Contact form at simsburycct <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 11:49 AM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: [simsburycct] Latimer Lane School (Sent by Alex Reger, alexanderreger@gmail.com)

Hello Board of Finance,

Alex Reger (alexanderreger@gmail.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/contact>) at simsburycct.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/edit>.

Message:

Dear Board of Finance Members,

I write to you to express my concern over the proposed education budget as it relates to eliminating the Latimer Lane Library Media Specialist. While I understand that the board is looking to cut costs by shifting the Library Media Specialist to Henry James for a year, this will significantly deprive Latimer Lane students of her expertise and access to library materials and learning.

The board may not be aware that the Latimer Lane School has not had a physical library space of its own for 2 years. The Library Media Specialist has made this work through a variety of creative means.

I know the school is working on intermittent library services. However, I am deeply concerned that the lack of consistent, weekly programming from a familiar staff member in favor of a hodgepodge of virtual programming and unspecified public library resources will not be enough. Without a consistent, familiar face, the students will not build the relationships that lead to positive student outcomes. Additionally, the Library Media Specialist has content knowledge to help support the classroom curriculum. A band-aid style approach lacks this capacity.

Lastly, it's worth noting that Latimer Lane students have been impacted disproportionately by the combination of COVID and construction. Current fourth grade students have had a functioning library space for only 1.5 years of their educational experience, and under the current plan will not have an operating library space until their sixth-grade year! This means they would suffer up to 4.5 years of lost library functionality in their Latimer Lane time. Current third graders have one year, and students in first grade will not have had a functioning library from kindergarten until third grade. Fully eliminating the Library Media Specialist will significantly exacerbate these concerns.

I understand that construction, combined with increased enrollment, leaves space at a premium. But to eliminate any library experience at Latimer is not the answer, and is inappropriate.

Simsbury prides itself on the strength of its schools, but in this issue, it is falling far short. The Board of Education's five year goals promises a "culture defined by continuous improvement." Eliminating a library in an elementary school that is already been suffering without one is taking too many steps back. Eliminating the library entirely also fails to meet multiple aspects of the Vision of the Graduate (VoG) - the goals the district sets for itself and its students. The library media specialist helps students become critical, independent thinkers. The Library Media Specialist also promotes the "self-directed learner" goal by showing them that their interests matter, and that there are resources outside of their

individual classroom to pursue them. Finally, I worry that eliminating the library entirely widens the inequality between Latimer and other Simsbury schools.

The Library Media Specialist does not need a full classroom - she has been operating without one for years. She only needs a space to store books. Surely one of the wealthiest towns in the wealthiest states can afford a space so that these elementary kids have access to library services.

Thank you for your consideration.

Alex Reger

Latimer Lane Parent

860 539-8933

alexanderreger@gmail.com

Meriwether Amy

From: Town Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 9:04 AM
To: Meriwether Amy; Chamberlain Kelsey
Cc: Munroe Trish; Espinal Jen; Fenn Colleen
Subject: FW: Vote "NO" on the proposed Town Budget

Additional public comments for Board of Finance meeting.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Town Clerk Department
Town of Simsbury
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860)658-3243
(860)658-3206

-----Original Message-----

From: Beth Finnance <bobbethf@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 12:32 AM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Cc: Beth Finnance <bobbethf@comcast.net>; Bob Finnance <bob.finnance@gmail.com>
Subject: Vote "NO" on the proposed Town Budget

Dear Board of Finance Members

Beth and I would like to voice our concern about the current budget proposal and request that you not pass it. We have been Simsbury residents for over 36 years and raised our three sons here. We moved to Simsbury mostly for its quality of life and education. Our only criticism of the town government has been its lack of creativity in building fiscally responsible budgets.

Yes, of course costs rise, but the grand list never seems to keep pace. Continuously putting this financial burden on the backs of the homeowners only creates a death spiral for the community. In comparison to other communities, I believe the ever-rising property tax has had a detrimental effect on both home values and the town's ability to attract new residents and businesses. Small businesses are failing, yet new rental properties seem to flourish. So I have to question whether the tax contribution of these developments actually covers all the new demands on education, recreation and other town services. If they are covering, where's the benefit?

All said, I request that the Board of Finance, seek new opportunities to increase the grand list, reduce costs and cut unnecessary spending to offset inflationary effects. If we have too many schools, close one, better yet sell the building to a developer. If our service costs rise, cut a few and or find ways to share them with our neighboring towns. If services are only benefiting a few, then charge the few higher fees.

In our 40 years of corporate business experience, I have never once built a budget without having to explain how an increase will result in increased profitability. Perhaps its time for the town to be accountable and to start thinking like a corporation.

Bob and Beth Finnance
81 Old Farms Rd.
West Simsbury, CT 06092

Meriwether Amy

From: Chamberlain Kelsey
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 10:36 AM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: FW: Town budget and Reval process

Importance: High

Kelsey Chamberlain

Deputy Finance Director
Town of Simsbury
(860) 658-3262

All E-mails are for official Town business only and privacy should not be assumed. E-mails are public documents unless subject matter is protected by State or Federal Laws.

From: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 9:51 AM
To: Chamberlain Kelsey <kchamberlain@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: FW: Town budget and Reval process

Hi Kelsey,

Here is another one for your department. Please distribute to anyone who this should go to. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Town Clerk Department
Town of Simsbury
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860)658-3243
(860)658-3206

From: Gary Dornbush <gfdornbush@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2023 7:08 PM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: Town budget and Reval process

To the Board of Finance:

Once again I am stunned by the increase in the budget and the proposed property tax increase. For starters the town should not own a golf course. This places a tax burden on the majority of homeowners and only benefits a very few of the residents. The cost to run an 18 hole golf course is probably \$1.5 million at a minimum. The cost to be a member is probably around an average of \$1,500 so the majority of taxpayers are footing the bill for at least \$1 million for the benefit of maybe 300 residents. If you research this issue in Golf magazine you will find their conclusion is that no town should ever own a golf course for obvious reasons. Simsbury Farms needs to be leased to a private company so the

town can save an enormous amount of money over time. Also Simsbury Farms is competing against a private golf course in town that is a taxpayer. Insanity !!

Retired homeowners will be forced to move out of town eventually because of the high property taxes. Retirees are not using the school system or other services yet they are forced to pay for them via property taxes. One has to question the continual increase in the school budget. It needs to be challenged and capped. A \$5.1 million increase is out of line and the school system needs to find ways to contain the annual increase. For instance the school system needs to explore a centralized system of educating the special needs population with surrounding towns. This system exists in Bergen County New Jersey and works very well. In fact the students gain better services at a reduced cost.

Has anyone challenged the budget for the fire department ? I can almost guarantee the budget is inflated .

I hope more time will be spent digging into the details behind the budget and that some of the increases will be challenged and hopefully reduced.

Respectfully submitted ,

Gary F. Dornbush
24 Stafford Road
Simsbury CT 06070
860 869 4546



Virus-free www.avg.com

Meriwether Amy

From: Contact form at simsburyct <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 7:24 AM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: [simsburyct] Budget comments for public hearing on 4/4 (Sent by Kris Barnett, barnettfamily4@comcast.net)

Hello Board of Finance,

Kris Barnett (barnettfamily4@comcast.net) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/contact>) at simsburyct.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/edit>.

Message:

To the members of the Board of Finance,

There is a difference between a want and a need.

Many individuals and families are struggling to make ends meet with inflation rates on average in the US for 2022 of 8.0% while in many cases wages remained flat.

Home values in CT and in Simsbury have increased significantly with the average sales price of single family homes increasing 11.1% in 2022 alone.

With an increase in home prices and an increase in property taxes our town is becoming unattainable and unaffordable for many.

My comments on the proposed budget go back to my first statement of a want versus a need and ask you to scrutinize the current budget proposal with a fine tooth comb to find areas for savings in our Town.

Why are we looking to expand EV charging stations that are free to anyone to use at the cost of \$112,200. I would support that if there was a corresponding revenue from these stations. I pay a hefty premium like others for gas in this town. No one is offering to fill my car for free. The current and proposed EV charging stations should not be free and should have a fee associated with them to offset the costs.

Why are we spending \$4642 on a library book bike. The library is not too far from our current bike path, town sidewalks and the main street area. How is this expense justified?

Why are we spending \$58,250 on a tourism map to be produced by the Granby/Simsbury Chamber of Commerce...a special interest group supported by dues paying members? We don't support other organizations like Junior Women's Club, Rotary, Masonic Lodge etc which are also special interest groups supported by dues paying members. Who uses maps anymore and wouldn't our money be better spent developing an app which can be updated to reflect additions and changes very quickly with no printing costs. Tourism received a grant several years ago for a walking tour of Simsbury with the use of QR codes. There must be State level grant opportunities to explore that would support tourism.

Why does an employee satisfaction survey cost \$20,000. Survey Monkey is a cost effective tool to use to gather survey results confidentially.

Why do we need a community library at the cost of \$75,400 for Tariffville. Our library is 5 minutes from Tariffville and

has not barriers to entry or use. If you put one in Tariffville do you feel the other areas of town such as Weatogue or West Simsbury also need one?

Can an increase in fees for programming at Simsbury Farms for both golf and recreation be increased to offset the increase in staffing and operating costs?

Why are we proposing to spend \$46,000 for safety on Metacom when the location this repair is on private property. Why is the Town responsible for this? Any repairs the rest of us need to make to our property to make it safe such as tree clearing or retaining wall repair is our responsibility not the Towns

I am not sure what the Latimer Lane outdoor learning space specifically is but if this is for a playground this is not an appropriate use of ARPA funds. Playgrounds have always been the responsibility of each of the PTOs. A cost of \$345,800 for one school is not appropriate and these funds could be used elsewhere in town on capital improvement projects such as the Performing Arts Center.

Why are ARPA funds being used for fire district generators at the cost of \$123,125. The fire district's financial health has always been in great shape and they typically have the funds to cover all of their improvements.

Thank you for taking the time to review my comments and for your service to the community.

Kris Barnett

15 Ox Yoke Drive

Meriwether Amy

From: Contact form at simsburycct <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 6:59 AM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: [simsburycct] 2023-2024 Budget Input (Sent by Laurie Nilsen, nils0129@gmail.com)

Hello Board of Finance,

Laurie Nilsen (nils0129@gmail.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/contact>) at simsburycct.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/edit>.

Message:

Dear Board of Selectmen,

Please consider the current financial conditions many of the town residents are facing and make responsible adjustments to the 2023-2024 budget to result in a net-neutral median home impact. Understandably, budget decisions are unpopular, however, homeowners are also making difficult spending decisions given today's high-inflation.

Thank you for considering my request.

Laurie Nilsen

12 Talcott Mountain Road

Simsbury, CT 06070

Meriwether Amy

From: Heavner Lisa
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 11:57 AM
To: Schofield L; Art House; Robert Helfand; Derek Peterson; Doyle Michael; Meriwether Amy
Subject: Fwd: Wine ETC. and Federal Covid Funds (ARPA)

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Date: April 3, 2023 at 10:23:31 AM EDT
To: Lisa Hamel <lisa.e.hamel@gmail.com>, Abbuhl Amber <aabbuhl@simsbury-ct.gov>, Wellman Eric <ewellman@simsbury-ct.gov>, Goetz Heather <hgoetz@simsbury-ct.gov>, Heavner Lisa <lheavner@simsbury-ct.gov>, Peterson Peter <ppeterson@simsbury-ct.gov>, Askham Sean <saskham@simsbury-ct.gov>, simmainst <simmainst@sbcglobal.net>, Mackstutis Wendy <wmackstutis@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: RE: Wine ETC. and Federal Covid Funds (ARPA)

Dear Ms. Hamel,

Your email and comments have been forwarded to the Finance Department. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Town Clerk Department
Town of Simsbury
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860)658-3243
(860)658-3206

From: Lisa Hamel <lisa.e.hamel@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 10:12 AM
To: Abbuhl Amber <aabbuhl@simsbury-ct.gov>; Wellman Eric <ewellman@simsbury-ct.gov>; Goetz Heather <hgoetz@simsbury-ct.gov>; Heavner Lisa <lheavner@simsbury-ct.gov>; Peterson Peter <ppeterson@simsbury-ct.gov>; Askham Sean <saskham@simsbury-ct.gov>; simmainst <Simmainst@sbcglobal.net>; Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>; Mackstutis Wendy <wmackstutis@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: Wine ETC. and Federal Covid Funds (ARPA)

Good morning,

I am a tax payer who chose Simsbury for an outstanding education for my three children. At the time, I was a teacher in town and I saw first hand how education was prioritized. After 15 years of residency, I felt Simsbury would be an opportune location to expand my small business. On March

15, 2020, Wine ETC. opened its doors at 926 Hopmeadow Street in the Simsbury Town Shops. The proximity to downtown, the concerts at Iron Horse and the synergy from other local businesses in the plaza, makes our location feel like home.

However, my three year tenure as a business owner here has come with its share of challenges. I have struggled to keep up with the COVID-related costs of doing business. In particular, in an industry where pricing must remain competitive, I must leverage other skills to create revenue to meet the rising operational expenses. One example of this strategy is planning multiple wine tastings and events weekly. This requires double staffing. Payroll expenses increase for event facilitation, yet I cannot solely rely on the cost of goods sold to maintain daily operations.

It is my understanding that you have a choice to allocate the Federal Covid Funds (ARPA) to the property and business owners in Simsbury. This would be an extraordinary move in my favor. I understand there is a grant proposal, which was approved by the Board of Selectmen subcommittees, but last week the Board of Selectmen chose not to move it forward. I am looking to understand why this initiative is not being supported.

Since these grant funds are eligible for reimbursement towards any purchases made beginning 3/23/20, or towards a new project request, it would be even more useful for my business. I have expensed two new coolers, new POS software, a laptop and iPad. The technology requirements have been useful for tasting events, wine education and marketing for our wine and cheese subscriptions.

I look forward to hearing more about how we can partner as a community to support all local businesses. I appreciate your support and advocacy during this economically vulnerable time.

Regards,

Lisa Hamel

--

Lisa Hamel
Wine ETC.
Owner + Founder

C: 860.604.8537
O: 860.217.0688
O: 860.653.3797

Meriwether Amy

From: Contact form at simsburycct <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 1:14 PM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: [simsburycct] Town owned electric charging stations (Sent by Mark Mitchell, Mitchcar2000@yahoo.com)

Hello Board of Finance,

Mark Mitchell (Mitchcar2000@yahoo.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/contact>) at simsburycct.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/edit>.

Message:

It is my understanding that the town of Simsbury Board of finance is meeting tomorrow 4/04/23 to discuss public charging stations for electric cars. The Mitchell Family as you know have been in business for over 100 years. We currently are investing over \$100,000,000. In electronic infrastructure at our 7 different locations. We are also investigating over a \$100,000,000. In Solar electric generation at our stores. We are installing fast Changing, level three fast changing stations in Canton ,Windsor and at our Mobil Service station in Simsbury. As I'm sure you are aware of the market place and grid and how we will pay for it is quite confusing with regards to who and how will we pay. It is my hopes that the town will not put tax payer money into investments that belong in the private sector! Giving free power to encourage the use of electric cars is not free! Technology should be the driver of the electric car revolution not government subsidies! Let the products speak for them selves. Thank you for your intelligent consideration. Sincerely
Mark Mitchell President of Mitchell Auto Group

Meriwether Amy

From: Chamberlain Kelsey
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 10:18 AM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: FW: Simsbury Budget Plan 2023-2024

Importance: High

Kelsey Chamberlain
Deputy Finance Director
Town of Simsbury
(860) 658-3262

All E-mails are for official Town business only and privacy should not be assumed. E-mails are public documents unless subject matter is protected by State or Federal Laws.

-----Original Message-----

From: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 10:03 AM
To: Chamberlain Kelsey <kchamberlain@simsbury-ct.gov>
Cc: Fenn Colleen <cfenn@simsbury-ct.gov>; Munroe Trish <tmunroe@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: FW: Simsbury Budget Plan 2023-2024

Hi Kelsey,

More public comments for your department. Thanks!

Sincerely,

Town Clerk Department
Town of Simsbury
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860)658-3243
(860)658-3206

-----Original Message-----

From: Maxine Asnis <maxineasnis@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 5:46 PM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: Simsbury Budget Plan 2023-2024

To: Members of the Simsbury BOS, BOE and BOF:

I am unable to attend the April 4th Budget meeting, but would like to speak strongly in favor of the planned and currently budgeted repainting and repair of the ODHFB.

As you know, the Simsbury Flower Bridge at Hopbrook Landing Park is a very popular and well-frequented local attraction.

It is popular with residents, and continues to attract many visitors from other parts of CT. It has become a “must-see” for visitors from out of state, as those of us who volunteer to tend the flowers can attest.

The recent study conducted by the town on what residents like about Simsbury suggested that the ODHFB was very high on the list, if not number one. This should not be ignored!

As the Bridge draws visitors, both local and out-of-area, to the central Simsbury area, other features of the town receive more attention as well, including restaurants, local shops, the Simsbury Historical Society, the MLK memorial, and many others.

Funding for needed and proper maintenance and repair of the Bridge will ensure that this historical landmark is available to delight visitors and enhance the town of Simsbury for many years.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Maxine Asnis

Resident since 2017

433 Millers Way

Simsbury, CT 06070

Member, ODHFB Committee

Meriwether Amy

From: Lisa Heavner <ljheavner@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 3:50 PM
To: Schofield L; Arthur House; Robert Helfand; Derek Peterson (derek.peterson@cigna.com); Doyle Michael; Meriwether Amy
Subject: Fwd: Town budget input

I'm starting to lose track of what I have sent- if this is a duplicate, apologies.

Lisa

Begin forwarded message:

From: Heavner Lisa <ljheavner@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Town budget input
Date: April 3, 2023 at 3:29:27 PM EDT
To: Lisa Heavner <ljheavner@comcast.net>

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Heavner Lisa <ljheavner@simsbury-ct.gov>
Date: April 3, 2023 at 3:29:00 PM EDT
To: Schofield L <lindaschofieldmph@gmail.com>, Art House <arthrhouse@gmail.com>, Derek Peterson <derek.peterson@cigna.com>, Robert Helfand <helfandlawfirm@comcast.net>, Doyle Michael <mdoyle@simsbury-ct.gov>, Meriwether Amy <ameriwether@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Town budget input

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Melissa Brett <melbrett68@gmail.com>
Date: April 3, 2023 at 2:39:10 PM EDT
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>, Mackstutis Wendy <wmackstutis@simsbury-ct.gov>, Wellman Eric <ewellman@simsbury-ct.gov>, Abbuhl Amber <aabbuhl@simsbury-ct.gov>, Goetz Heather <hgoetz@simsbury-ct.gov>, Peterson Peter <ppeterson@simsbury-ct.gov>, Askham Sean <saskham@simsbury-ct.gov>, Heavner Lisa <ljheavner@simsbury-ct.gov>, Sarah Floroski Nielsen <simmainst@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Town budget input

I think most of you know who I am by now - 19 year business owner, 3 year mixed-use property owner and 31 year resident. I am unable to attend the 4/4/23 budget hearing, but wanted to express my concerns on the proposed town budget. I have read through the 297 page proposed budget and I am dismayed at the entire document as a 3-fold taxpayer.

Most homeowners, business owners and property owners have had massive increases in their expenses in the past 18 months (heating oil/natural gas, electricity, insurance, maintenance), well above 5%. Adding an increase to the majority of taxpayers seems irresponsible as representatives of our town. We need economic development projects and new/expanding businesses that will help grow our tax base, and not put the burden on existing taxpayers. Simsbury businesses are not immune to the massive increases in our expenses - many that I know are literally 30-days away from closing if they cannot meet their necessary sales.

I am aware of the proposed ARPA grant projects for small businesses that were presented to the BOS over the past 2 years, as I am a board member of Simsbury Main Street Partnership. The majority of the ARPA funds I see in the budget are being allotted only for town projects (town manager search, Eno building infrastructure, health insurance funding, fire district, reducing town debt, etc), yet it is my understanding that ARPA funds were also supposed to assist small businesses with that had financial hardships and/or need assistance recuperating expenses that were incurred due to covid restrictions/regulations. During the budget process, several other business owners I believe have asked about this ARPA business grant program - they were told the BOS opted to not fund this program, but instead use the funds that would benefit all taxpayers in town and help reduce the mill rate - this is partially untrue as it appears some of the ARPA-funded projects are "wants" instead of much needed economic development to stem the tide of vacancies that have cropped up all over town. While I know Simsbury Main Street Partnership is attempting to help fill these vacancies, our existing

business and property owners desperately need town help.

Business and property owners continue to struggle due to increases in every expense area, and many are also residents: dual taxpayers and voters. We are all looking to townhall to acknowledge the struggles every business owner has gone through during covid and continue to do so to this day. There were some limited monetary covid relief programs that were made available to small business owners early on, but nothing was available to property owners. Many local property owners that I have talked to either froze or even forgave some of their rents due to the excessive burden that was on their tenants' just to keep their doors open. Others had lost tenants as they moved their businesses online and/or to their homes. Yet we all still have the same, if not increased, monthly expenses without similar increases in income.

Many of the commercial and mixed-use property owners that I know of have seen a significant increase in their property valuations and even with the proposed lower mill rate, their town taxes will be much higher. This, in turn with all the other massive expense increases, will be increasing their tenants' rents, and making Simsbury an expensive place to work and live.

I hope that my comments will be heard during the public hearing.

Melissa Brett, co-owner
Welden Hardware & Brett Properties
Simsbury, CT 06070

Meriwether Amy

From: Town Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 8:38 AM
To: Meriwether Amy; Chamberlain Kelsey
Cc: Munroe Trish; Fenn Colleen; Espinal Jen
Subject: FW: Budget concerns 2023 Simsbury

Additional public comments for the Budget meeting.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Town Clerk Department
Town of Simsbury
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860)658-3243
(860)658-3206

-----Original Message-----

From: Robin Schofield <rdmschofield@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 8:52 PM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: Budget concerns 2023 Simsbury

Board of Finance

I am writing with concerns on the current budget as proposed. I urge you to please remove any items that can be reduced in this year's budget. We are very concerned with the continual rising taxes and at a time when all of our expenses are going up. Our oil, gas and electric bills are out of hand at the moment. We have lived in town 23 years so we are reaching our limit on expenses.

There must be a point at which cuts can and must be made. I urge you to trim down the budget this year and next, so that we as homeowners can get a handle on all of our rising costs. I feel bombarded on every item we budgeted for.

Please slow down this process.

Robin Schofield
37 Northgate

Sent from my iPhone

Meriwether Amy

From: Town Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 8:36 AM
To: Meriwether Amy; Chamberlain Kelsey
Cc: Espinal Jen; Munroe Trish; Fenn Colleen
Subject: FW: Simsbury Tax Increase, comment for April 4 Bd of Finance Meeting

Amy -

Public comments for the Board of Finance meeting.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Town Clerk Department
Town of Simsbury
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860)658-3243
(860)658-3206

-----Original Message-----

From: ROY POMERANTZ <roybpomerantz@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 8:34 PM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: Simsbury Tax Increase, comment for April 4 Bd of Finance Meeting

I am concerned about the level of the tax increase imposed upon Simsbury residents for the 2023 budget. In the past, we have felt that the town government was prudent in their financial management. A 6% increase is far greater than any we have seen in our 26 years in the town. While there may have been some unusual financial circumstances in the past year, I sincerely hope that our government will be conservative financial stewards, and respect the needs of the taxpayers.

Sincerely,
Roy Pomerantz
65 Blue Ridge Dr

Sent from my iPad

Meriwether Amy

From: Contact form at simsburycct <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 7:00 AM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: [simsburycct] 2023-2024 Budget Input (Sent by William A Leary, WLEARY0413@GMAIL.COM)

Hello Board of Finance,

William A Leary (WLEARY0413@GMAIL.COM) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/contact>) at simsburycct.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/edit>.

Message:

Dear Board of Selectmen,

Please consider the current financial conditions many of the town residents are facing and make responsible adjustments to the 2023-2024 budget to result in a net-neutral median home impact. Understandably, budget decisions are unpopular, however, homeowners are also making difficult spending decisions given today's high-inflation.

Thank you for considering my request.

William Leary
12 Talcott Mountain Road
Simsbury, CT 06070

Meriwether Amy

From: Chamberlain Kelsey
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 9:57 AM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: FW: 2023-24 proposed budget

Kelsey Chamberlain

Deputy Finance Director
Town of Simsbury
(860) 658-3262

All E-mails are for official Town business only and privacy should not be assumed. E-mails are public documents unless subject matter is protected by State or Federal Laws.

From: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 6:57 PM
To: Chamberlain Kelsey <kchamberlain@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: FW: 2023-24 proposed budget

Hello Kelsey,

Another one.

Sincerely,

Town Clerk Department
Town of Simsbury
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860)658-3243
(860)658-3206

From: Joanne Pomerantz <jspomerantz@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 4:32 PM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: 2023-24 proposed budget

Dear Board of Finance,

I appreciate all your work that has gone into the current budget proposals, and the scope of the information that has been made available to explain the reasons for the proposed budget increases. However, the proposal to spend 7.30% more for 2023-24 than 2022-23 seems very high. A 6.70% increase in the education budget is particularly concerning.

I would like Simsbury to be affordable not only for young families, but also for retired people to be able to remain in their homes long-term. A median tax increase of 5.93% will make that increasingly difficult. I hope you may be able to reduce the proposed budget.

Sincerely,
Joanne Pomerantz
65 Blue Ridge Drive 06070

Meriwether Amy

From: Heavner Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 11:29 AM
To: Schofield L; Art House; Derek Peterson; Doyle Michael; Robert Helfand; Meriwether Amy
Subject: Fwd: Help for Simsbury businesses

Another public comment

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Matt Natcharian <matt@fiddlers-green-simsbury.com>
Date: April 4, 2023 at 11:06:21 AM EDT
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>, Mackstutis Wendy <wmackstutis@simsbury-ct.gov>, Wellman Eric <ewellman@simsbury-ct.gov>, Abbuhl Amber <aabbuhl@simsbury-ct.gov>, Goetz Heather <hgoetz@simsbury-ct.gov>, Peterson Peter <ppeterson@simsbury-ct.gov>, Askham Sean <saskham@simsbury-ct.gov>, Heavner Lisa <lheavner@simsbury-ct.gov>, simmainst@sbcglobal.net
Cc: Lisa Natcharian <lisa@fiddlers-green-simsbury.com>
Subject: Help for Simsbury businesses

Dear Simsbury Town officials,

I'm writing today to strongly urge you to support the proposals for the use of Federal COVID funds (ARPA), put forward by Simsbury Main Street. These proposals are all very reasonable ways to support the businesses in our town. All of the businesses have been suffering for the past 3 years and have sustained significant losses.

As the owners of Fiddler's Green, Lisa and I have seen first hand the toll this crisis has taken. In fact, two of the three restaurants in our property have now closed as a result of COVID related stresses, despite generous relief we have provided out of our pockets. Similar businesses need all the help you can provide, to rebuild the business base in the town.

As a property owner, we can tell you directly that we've been losing money every year for the past 3 years, as a result of the crisis and the resulting rent relief we have provided. The very high tax rates we pay have also been very harmful and have stifled investment in the center of town. The value of Fiddler's Green has fallen significantly since we invested in it in 2016. The center of town and other business areas needs your direct assistance. As the economy continues to weaken, now is the time to show fiscal restraint and work to lower taxes for all residents and business. The budgets as proposed are certainly tone deaf to what is really happening. We need you to fight both to keep Simsbury the wonderful town it is, but also to help local businesses thrive and create virtuous synergies between both.

Sincerely,

Matt & Lisa Natcharian
3 Ridgebury Road

Meriwether Amy

From: Town Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 10:42 AM
To: Meriwether Amy; Chamberlain Kelsey
Cc: Munroe Trish; Espinal Jen
Subject: FW: Board of Finance Budget considerations : comment

Additional public comments for you...

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Town Clerk Department
Town of Simsbury
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860)658-3243
(860)658-3206

-----Original Message-----

From: Rita bond <rita.bond@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 10:32 AM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: Board of Finance Budget considerations : comment

Please share this with the Board of Finance as they consider the new proposed budget.

Dear Board of Finance members,

I think everyone in Simsbury appreciates the work the Finance Board does, and that our money is well spent to make our town so special. However, now that WE are retired, the effect of inflation and tax increases on ours and everyone's budget is more apparent. In some respects, the tax increases take more of a toll on young families, whereas it is easier for seniors to downsize or move to a less expensive area that perhaps doesn't have quite as good a school system. Of course, this also results in the Town losing long time residents as seniors are pushed away.

In order to lessen the tax burden on Simsbury's residents, we would urge temporary holds on costly optional construction projects until inflation is further tamed on materials and building costs. In light of inflationary costs, please weigh what we need vs. what we would like.

Sincerely,
Rita and Steven Bond, MD

Fine Art

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.ritabondstudios.com&c=E,1,6IAS3UgV98SjrhvMQSxSZ8a-8k5hfH_Ew3GclJ0r38red0dYjdUZI-b9_AfUtgboAGIYIfGV1L8PYuJ1T6CjF6lH6fuNp8QQT0A4h0ZDqr7cA4wRYA-IVw,,&typo=1
(860) 205-4279

Meriwether Amy

From: Chamberlain Kelsey
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 9:57 AM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: FW: town budget

Kelsey Chamberlain

Deputy Finance Director
Town of Simsbury
(860) 658-3262

All E-mails are for official Town business only and privacy should not be assumed. E-mails are public documents unless subject matter is protected by State or Federal Laws.

From: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 6:57 PM
To: Chamberlain Kelsey <kchamberlain@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: FW: town budget

Hi Kelsey,

And another one.

Sincerely,

Town Clerk Department
Town of Simsbury
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860)658-3243
(860)658-3206

From: SUSAN PRENTICE <sprentice@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 4:00 PM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: town budget

I am a 46 year resident of Simsbury.
~ Never put any children through the Simsbury school system and have always dutifully paid my taxes.
The tax increases over the years have strained my budget but this proposed budget is simply too large.

I am an artist, not an elected official or a numbers person, but this budget can surely be pared down.

Please re-consider this budget and trim some expenses.

Property taxes are less expensive in Fairfield county for goodness sake!!

Susan Prentice

Susan Prentice Studio & Gallery
Studio 6B
27 Arts Center Lane
Farmington Valley Arts Center
Avon, CT 06001

Phone: 860-985-4322

Home
264 Old Farms Road
Simsbury, CT 06070

Website:
www.susanprentice.com

Instagram:
@sprentice

Facebook:
Susan Prentice Studio & Gallery

Meriwether Amy

From: Contact form at simsburycct <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 7:32 PM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: [simsburycct] Proposed mill rate -taxes (Sent by Jen Fickert, fickert12@gmail.com)

Hello Board of Finance,

Jen Fickert (fickert12@gmail.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/contact>) at simsburycct.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/edit>.

Message:

My assessed value went up 38%! Which will result in a 15% increase in my taxes if the proposed mill rate 32.04 is approved. I live in Tariffville, working class neighborhood, and this sharp increase is way to extreme. How can I now pay an additional \$888 year in taxes? Do we consider moving out of the town? It seems the town is trying to price us out? Where is affordable housing in this town. A slower increase in mill rates over many years is the better option. I do not live in a fancy house! It is a tiny cape! My neighbors did not get a 38% av increase. We are all trying to survive. Where are the folks that got the 27% average av increase? I would like to be one of those people. Are they in the richer areas of the town? Please consider a lower mill rate. I know I can appeal my av, but was only given 20 days from the date of the letter on 3/1 and new values were not online yet to check my neighborhood. I was hoping a reasonable mill rate would be set, now I see that is in jeopardy and I missed the appeal window. Please consider the working class folks in Tariffville when setting the mill rate. The increase is way to high!

Meriwether Amy

From: cmsmailer@civicplus.com on behalf of Contact form at simsburycct <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 3:45 PM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: [simsburycct] 2023/2024 Budget Comments (Sent by Jesse Schofield, jesse.schofield@gmail.com)
Attachments: bof_comments.docx

Hello Board of Finance,

Jesse Schofield (jesse.schofield@gmail.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.simsburycct.gov/user/11911/contact>) at simsburycct.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.simsburycct.gov/user/11911/edit>.

Message:

Hi Board of Finance,

I am writing in concern about the upcoming budget proposal for 2023/24. I am a current and former Simsbury resident who recently returned to Simsbury after living in South Carolina for over a decade, primarily for the benefit of raising my young kids in such a great school system, great town and great community. While I have been following the ongoing discussions for this year's budgets, and I can understand many of the dynamics we are still in following the atypical spending in 2020-2022 from covid responses and changes, I am concerned about the trajectory we are setting for this next budget and the likely trend that will continue in the following years. Generally, it seems that the continued abnormal increasing adjustments to expenditures are occurring without a corresponding growth in population or town businesses and may lead to more of our residents to reach a point where they look to leave town as soon as they no longer have an overwhelming benefit for some of our unique services due to the costs to be here. This can mean those nearing retirement immediately leaving to an adjacent town where the availability of smaller housing options exists, as well as ensuring that many of the houses in Simsbury are only attainable to a family or individuals that are of high wealth given the ongoing property tax growth combined with the market changes (that are out of the control of our town). Simsbury is a difficult town to afford to live in and I don't feel like it easily represents a place where a young family can move to and grow in like it has in the past.

I attended the POCD, and it was very clear that many residents who are most passionate about what this town offers have different views of its best assets, but are we prioritizing our spending on those things in the best way, regardless of whether we all agree on their priority?

While anyone can be a critic, I wanted to note some things that I think emphasize the issues that I find in our spending approaches and priorities:

- A surprise of mine when I returned to Simsbury was how much of the town services still require me to make a phone call only, or write a check for payment, or are missing obvious means of revenue like an ability to easily rent a picnic pavilion at a town park with a common digital reservation/transaction or similar modern alternative that is ubiquitous today. Are we focusing on ways to move our existing departments to contemporary practices? Some of these kinds of old practices are not just inefficient, they are also a waste of the time of administration as well as a revenue loss for the town. As one anecdote, the process to try to book a facility in town for a family event was convoluted, overpriced and difficult to determine the availability, that it became easier, cheaper and more efficient to get the same from an adjacent town, but with no real reason why we have to put up so many obstacles for the same process.
- Are we considering the future uses of the great land / current historical assets that we have purchased and preserved? We have a need to spend 650k to retain/restore one of the old tobacco barns on Meadowood, but is the development work for the Meadowood area a future request to be determined or only a land trust obligation? Will this restoration consider the use of the structure for occupancy in any setting/display of a historical exhibit or just exterior

viewing? This is a similar concern I hold regarding our incredible Eno Hall, which I know is badly in need of improvements to accommodate the Senior center, one of the best examples of a thriving community group, but do we envision this space becoming a meeting place and event location more often, are we working to encourage more use/rental of this space while also working to upgrade the older HVAC and similar infrastructure systems?

- While a full replacement playground at Simsbury Farms is a great upgrade (one my family will certainly utilize), just as the West Mountain park replacement was badly needed, what can be done now at those playgrounds and others like the Rotary Park, Meadow Pond, etc. on a continued maintenance approach? I want the town to ensure that we don't simply follow with two decades of rot on the structure and ground surfaces leading to boarded up sides and caution taped off entrances and instead a great useful life with adequate maintenance, and should that be a bigger focus in incremental budgeting over full replacement on the next?

- EV Chargers- I was surprised there is even a debate about the expansion of EV chargers in town, as I am used to most towns and cities focusing on making sure they have public Wi-Fi, EV chargers and other amenities that have obvious benefits in drawing residents and consumers to their areas of local businesses and events. But it also doesn't make sense to deploy more level 2 chargers without an integrated payment system, especially when there is awareness that the current locations are being used by some cars charging overnight. Even if the pricing setup is minimal at first, if the point is to anticipate our future town's needs, how will we manage an increasing demand and counter EV drivers who might use it as only a local free charging point or encourage them to relocate their vehicle for others to also use when they finish charging during business hours? While it would recoup some costs for the chargers, it may also change the vendor consideration for the charger and allow them to be more visible on certain databases to EV drivers looking for an option to charge. While it's a minimal cost item in the budget, I think it's a good example of an item that should have a settled analysis and priority already defined on a macro level for the town.

- Lastly, the upgrade of schools is a necessary and obvious future need, but with the BOE as 67% of the town's spending, the ~7% increase in spending from last year combining all BOE items is a big influence on Simsbury's spending growth. There are undoubtedly changes or alternative choices that can yield improvement in expenditures, and I think a lesson can be learned from Latimer Lane renovations and market adjustments following the project starting. I as much as any parent want the Simsbury school system to remain a unique and exemplary public school system. However, I suspect the next renovation will be Squadron Line or another facility that can benefit from an update or replacement and I didn't catch it on the budget projections, and I am unsure if that will mean it costs what it costs, or if viable alternatives will be considered if it encounters cost overruns with continued materials cost inflation for construction. I urge the financial planning to consider options that will still deliver a renovated school that is 80% of the way to an ideal or have a tiered level of renovation choices. I love our schools, but I don't want to see residents only coming and going as a means to attend some of the best schools in CT and leaving to another town when that is no longer personally a benefit for the cost. I also worry that another enormous spending request or unexpected increase needing a referendum may yield a nightmare situation with a contagious public belief that Simsbury schools are getting too expensive and a shift in public opinion to oppose budgets or BOE referendum votes as a default position to force a change that is much less manageable.

Thanks for any consideration of my personal opinions, and I appreciate the Board of Finance, Board of Selectmen and Town Manager for all that they do for this town.

Sincerely,

Jesse Schofield, 9 Fairview St

Meriwether Amy

From: Town Clerk
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2023 1:51 PM
To: 'kreczkoaj@aol.com'
Cc: Meriwether Amy; Chamberlain Kelsey; Munroe Trish; Espinal Jen
Subject: RE: budget meeting 4/4/2023

Becky-

Your comments have been received and the appropriate individuals copied on this email. We apologize for the delay in response time. Your message was relegated to our Junk/Spam folder.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Town Clerk Department
Town of Simsbury
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860)658-3243
(860)658-3206

From: kreczkoaj@aol.com <kreczkoaj@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:25 PM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: budget meeting 4/4/2023

The roughly 7% increase in the town budget is much higher than any I recall in the past. Additionally, our property assessment increased by 31%. It's just a matter of time before that increase translates to even higher property taxes even without a mill rate increase.

More than half of home sales on our street the past several years have gone to families with 3 or more school age children. Those households are not paying enough in tax to cover the cost of their public school attendance. Higher taxes drive out the households with no school age children. We need a budget that shows efforts to control this ballooning problem.

Thank you,
Becky Latimer
5 Spruce Lane, Weatogue

Board of Finance
TOWN OF SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 5:45 P.M.
In Person Meeting /Simsbury Community Media Live Stream

PRESENT:

Lisa Heavner, Mike Doyle, Robert Helfand, Arthur House, Mr. Peterson, and Linda Schofield.

ALSO PRESENT:

Amy Meriwether, Finance Director; Tom Fitzgerald, Acting Town Manager; Tom Tyburski, Director of Culture, Parks & Recreation; Orlando Casiano; Parks & Rec Superintendent; Nick Boulter, Chief of Police; Chris Davis, Deputy Police Chief; Lisa Karim, Library Director; Wendy Mackstutis, First Selectman; Amber Abbuhl, Deputy First Selectman; Eric Wellman, Selectman; Susan Salina, Board of Education Chair; Jenna Caulfield, Police Commission Chair

1. Call to Order - Establish Quorum

Ms. Heavner called the meeting to order at 5:45 P.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Hearing on FY23/24 Operating and Capital Budgets

Ms. Heavner thanked the public for sending in comments after the previous Public Hearing meeting and said they will be posted with the minutes on the website. She opened the floor for public hearing.

1. Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive; spoke about the revaluation and assessment process. She also spoke about the issues with addiction and mental health. She spoke about the pickleball courts, the status of the golf course, private schools should give a stipend in lieu of taxes and she asked the Board to review the expenditures and reduce the budget with no increase in taxes.
2. Lori Boyko, 15 Oakhurst Road; spoke about the schools in the community and the cost of education. She asked that expenditures are reviewed and cut where necessary.
3. Dr. Michael Rinaldi, 32 Pinnacle Mountain Road; spoke about the cost of living in Simsbury. He didn't speak highly about the Board of Education and the Board of Selectman and said the budget numbers need to be cut by \$3M.
4. David Bush, 4 Katherine Lane; spoke about taking care of the things the town acquired. He spoke in favor of hiring the Parks Maintainer approved in the 10-year master plan.

MOTION: Mr. Peterson made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to close the Public Hearing. Ms. Schofield seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Town Quarterly Financial Report

Ms. Meriwether reviewed the budget report starting with revenues. She reported they are at about \$113M or 98.31% of budget and are in line with the same time last year. She reviewed

some important highlights including motor vehicle tax, municipal revenue sharing, increased interest income, Town Clerk recording fees, and addressed questions from the Board. Ms. Heavner asked about Memorial Pool bringing in about \$20,000 more than anticipated and it was flagged as a savings for the FY 2023/2024 budget discussion.

With regards to expenditures Ms. Meriwether reported that as the end of March they have spent \$81,701,654 to date which is about 70.22% of budget and is in line with the same time last year. She highlighted some line items that are over budget due to Union Contracts that were settled in the current year. Ms. Meriwether noted that the contingency line item for union negotiations will cover that overage. She also reported salary savings from vacancies and Pension ARC payment savings.

Ms. Meriwether then reviewed the various fund balances and answered questions from the Board. Ms. Schofield noted that the Simsbury Farms Fund had close to \$1M in fund balance and inquired about the use of the balance for the FY 2024 budget. Mr. Tyburski responded that that they are proposing use of some of that fund balance for capital projects in 2024. Ms. Heavner proposed and Ms. Schofield agreed that there should be a fund balance policy for the fund so that they know what their target should be. The board asked various questions on what the plan is for other fund balances with high revenue balances which were addressed. Ms. Heavner provided an overview of policy on savings in the general fund.

Ms. Meriwether summarized that she anticipated about \$800,000 may be available at year end to contribute to the Capital Reserve Fund.

5. Budget Discussion and Possible Action

Ms. Heavner said that they received legal council's opinion on the Municipal Spending cap requirement, and requested Ms. Meriwether confirm the proposed budget is in compliance with the spending cap requirement. Ms. Meriwether and Mr. DeCrescenzo were able to confirm the proposed budget is in compliance with the State spending cap requirement.

Ms. Heavner invited comments on the budget from Board members. Ms. Schofield provided some remarks on the budget process and the unpleasant choices that have to be made. Mr. House spoke about the process and the mindset needed to get through this year and the following year. Mr. Peterson provided context on how he will be thinking about the budget, he commented on the ARPA themed reserves, and added that he is not supportive of borrowing at higher costs today for certain projects and using reserves to pay off lower cost of debt. He said it would make more sense to pay for cash what they are expected to bond for today. Mr. Helfand also provided a summary of his views on the budget process and the issues they faced this year. He added that he does not want the town government to be an institution that delivers amenities and gradually weeds out the people who cannot pay for them. He said they have to think of the town as part of a larger community and they cannot afford everything they want, or all the benefits they would like to bestow on current residents. Mr. Doyle mentioned that next year he will be pushing for a firm number for guidance from the Board of Finance and hopes to better shape the budget expectations before they come before the board. Mr. Peterson said that next year he would like to make firm recommendations in guidance to help shape the budgets before they get to the Board of Finance. Ms. Heavner also provided her thoughts on the budget process. She noted that at the

Tri-Board the Board of Finance indicated the budget would have to be limited to fixed costs, with exceptions for public safety and state mandates. She mentioned that they will be looking to cut \$5M out of the Capital budget next year and keep an eye on neighboring towns.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to increase the revenue for Memorial Pool by \$20,000. Mr. House seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to increase the vacancy line item from \$235,000 to \$250,000 for a \$15,000 increase from where the Board of Selectman ended. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. A discussion followed. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to increase the insurance refund revenue line item from \$27,500 to \$60,000. Mr. Doyle seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. House made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to increase the interest investment income revenue from \$100,000 to \$800,000. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Helfand made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to increase revenues in the World Skate line item from \$80,000 to \$85,000. Ms. Schofield seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Helfand made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to increase the Board of Selectman community service public agency line item by \$100,000 to fund the Housing Authority in the amount of \$100,000 for capital improvements. Mr. House seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Helfand made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to approve \$225,000 from the capital reserve fund from 2023 ARPA themed funding to the Board of Education operating budget to fund the second year of salaries and benefits for two social workers. Mr. House seconded the motion. A discussion followed. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Doyle made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to eliminate the fire district generator project in the amount of \$123,125. Ms. Schofield seconded the motion. Ms. Heavner noted that the Fire District is an independent taxing authority and they have an alternative way to fund this project through taxing or use of their reserves. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. House made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to appropriate \$100,000 in a contingency line item in the capital reserve fund. This is to be used for emergency capital repairs, unanticipated capital cost overages, or matches for unanticipated grants to leverage town dollars. The contingency to be funded with appropriation from the capital reserve fund. In accordance with Connecticut General Statute 7-348 expenditures from this line item require

approval by the Board of Finance before expenditures are authorized. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. A discussion followed. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Doyle made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to eliminate the EV Station project. A discussion followed. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. Ms. Heavner noted that Mr. Roy confirmed there is no grant currently available and the new contingency line item could fund this project, should a grant become available in the future. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Helfand made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to eliminate the mechanics and the parks maintainer positions and move to add a Connecticut General Statute 7-348 a contingency line item in the operating budget by an additional \$100,000 for the purpose of funding a new position. In accordance with Connecticut General Statute 7-348 expenditures from this line item require approval by the Board of Finance before expenditures are authorized. Move that any unexpended amount from this contingency line item for this purpose will lapse at FY 2024 year-end close and be returned to the general fund. Mr. House seconded the motion. A discussion followed. Ms. Heavner, Mr. Doyle, Mr. Helfand, Mr. House, and Mr. Peterson voted in favor. Ms. Schofield voted against. The motion passed by majority.

MOTION: Ms. Heavner requested a motion to add a capital non-recurring project for capital funding to be funded by the capital reserve fund in the amount of \$30,000. No one made the motion therefore it failed.

MOTION: Mr. House made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to appropriate a total of \$2M from the capital reserve ARPA themed dollars to reduce the FY 2023 borrowing costs taken from capital reserve fund and to reduce debt service from \$8,147,216 to \$7,940,310. A discussion followed. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. A friendly amendment was made by Ms. Schofield to increase the appropriation from \$2M to \$3M. Ms. Meriwether noted Ms. Schofield's proposed amendment would lower debt service to \$7,806,810 and that the Capital Reserve Fund balance is projected at \$2.2M with the anticipated year-end contribution. Mr. House and Mr. Helfand accepted the amendment. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Helfand made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to appropriate \$1,989,000 for the Old Drake Hill Flower Bridge to be funded with bonds. Mr. House seconded the motion. A discussion followed. Ms. Heavner, Mr. Helfand, Mr. House, and Ms. Schofield voted in favor. Mr. Doyle and Mr. Peterson voted against. The motion passed by majority.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to add a capital non-recurring project for the assessor audit and for the initial implementation to be funded with the capital reserve fund assigned dollars in the amount of \$150,000. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. A discussion followed. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Peterson made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to add a recurring appropriation line item in the library budget for computer replacement costs in the amount of \$7,000. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Helfand made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to designate all capital and capital non-recurring projects as individual project appropriations capped in the amount listed for each project. Further in accordance with town policy, move that for capital non-recurring (CNR) projects only anticipated budget transfers between projects can be overspent by \$5,000 or 20% of the total project budget, whichever is less, so long as the anticipated overages do not exceed anticipated savings and other projects. Ms. Heavner noted that the policy does not apply to CIP projects, which may not be exceeded. The transfer and close out requests will go to the Board of Selectman and the Board of Finance at year end close for those overages. Further move the Director of Finance to provide monthly reports of any approvals granted under this policy. Ms. Schofield seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to remove one year of the Library Literacy program in the amount of \$4,642 using ARPA themed dollars. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. A discussion followed. Ms. Schofield and Mr. Doyle voted in favor. Ms. Heavner, Mr. Helfand, Mr. Peterson, and Mr. House voted against. 4 votes in favor were required to pass the motion. The motion failed.

Ms. Heavner opened the floor to the Board to make a motion to remove the volunteer ambulance association costs associated with running the second ambulance. A motion was not made.

Ms. Heavner opened the floor to the Board to make a motion to remove \$70,000 in loan forgiveness to the Simsbury volunteer ambulance association amount owed to the town of Simsbury for new radio equipment. A motion was not made.

MOTION: Mr. House made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to assign \$8,600 in the capital reserve to fund the Library Literacy program thru FY25/26. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to remove \$30,000 for pollinator funding in FY24 in the capital non-recurring project. Mr. Doyle seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to reduce police overtime by \$20,000 back to the Town Managers recommended amount. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. A discussion followed. Ms. Schofield, Mr. Doyle, Ms. Heavner, Mr. Helfand, and Mr. House voted in favor. Mr. Peterson voted against. The motion passed by majority.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to reduce the general fund transfer to the Simsbury Farms complex from \$183,658 to \$ 151,715, a reduction of \$30,000. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion to appropriate \$112,000 for technology upgrades and systems access for the Simsbury Town Hall and the Police Department to be funded from a

Congressionally directed spending grant. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Peterson made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to request the Director of Finance to coordinate and develop a capital workshop for July 2023 on behalf of the Board of Finance. And to invite the boards of Education and Selectman, and any other invitees the Director deems relevant for the purpose of developing a funding and capacity plan for projects in the out years, and for developing public criteria, and to rank Capital needs. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Heavner asked Ms. Meriwether and others present whether there were any other grants the town was aware of that will be applied for and for which the town should budget for. Ms. Meriwether indicated that she was not aware of any other grants. No Department Heads or Selectmen indicated they were aware of any future grant applications.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to remove the \$20,000 for the employee satisfaction survey. Mr. Doyle seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to remove the \$45,000 for the Charter revision and delay that process until the following year. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. A discussion followed. Ms. Schofield withdrew the motion.

Ms. Meriwether reviewed the changes as they stood and a discussion followed. Ms. Heavner commended all involved and said the budget is reasonable and at a point where it can be put in front of the public for their input.

Ms. Meriwether confirmed that the changes made still keeps the town beneath the State spending cap.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, for the Board of Education to reduce their proposed budget by \$200,000 in order to get below a 5% increase. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. A discussion followed.

Mr. Peterson made a friendly amendment to reduce the BOE budget by \$400,000. Ms. Schofield accepted the friendly amendment. Mr. Helfand seconded the friendly amendment. A discussion followed. Mr. Peterson and Mr. Doyle voted in favor. Ms. Schofield, Ms. Heavner, Mr. Helfand, and Mr. House voted against. The motion failed.

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, for the Board of Education to reduce their proposed budget by \$200,000 in order to get below a 5% increase. Mr. Doyle seconded the motion. A discussion followed. Ms. Schofield, Mr. House and Mr. Doyle voted in favor. Mr. Peterson, Ms. Heavner, and Mr. Helfand voted against. The motion failed.

The Board took a brief recess. Ms. Heavner left the meeting and Mr. House continued the meeting as Chair.

MOTION: Mr. Helfand made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, that the reading into the minutes of the full text of the resolutions set out is waived, copies of the resolutions having been made available to those in attendance, and recorded in these records immediately preceding these minutes, and that the Board of Finance recommends and approves the projects as presented. Mr. Doyle seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Helfand made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, that the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of the Board of Selectmen annual budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be approved and implemented in the amount of \$31,679,397. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Helfand made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, that the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of the Board of Education annual budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be approved and implemented in the amount of \$81,576,437. Mr. Doyle seconded the motion. Mr. House, Mr. Helfand and Mr. Doyle voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Peterson and Ms. Schofield voted against the motion. The motion passed.

MOTION: Mr. Helfand made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, that the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of Sewer Use Fund (Sewer Treatment Plant), Residential Rental Properties, Simsbury Farms/Special Programs, Non-Public Schools, Debt Retirement/Capital and Capital Non-Recurring annual budgets for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be approved and implemented in the amount of \$17,149,930. Ms. Schofield seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Helfand made a motion, effective April 18, 2023, to approve the questions for the Referendum Ballot as presented. Mr. Doyle seconded the motion. A discussion followed. All were in favor and the motion carried.

6. Adjourn

MOTION: Ms. Schofield made a motion effective April 18, 2023, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M. Mr. Helfand seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion Lynott
Commission Clerk

TOWN OF SIMSBURY

RESOLVED,

Upon motion duly made, seconded and adopted, the reading into the minutes of the full text of the resolutions set out below is waived, copies of the resolutions having been made available to those in attendance, and recorded in these records immediately preceding these minutes.

RESOLVED, That the Board of [**Finance/Selectmen**] recommends and approves the following:

CIP #	<u>General Purpose Projects (Bonds)</u>	
	Highway Pavement Management (Bonding \$1,100,000; LoCIP Grant \$156,500; Town Aid Road Grant \$243,500; General Fund \$200,000)	\$1,700,000
	Sidewalk Reconstruction	\$223,400
	Replace Elevators	\$877,500
	Old Drake Hill Road Bridge Rehabilitation	\$1,989,000
	Multi-Use Trail Connections and Development (Bonding \$279,500; Transportation Alternative Set- Aside Grant \$343,500; Project Savings Fund 523 \$184,000)	\$873,000
	Bridge Improvements (Climax Road Over Nod Brook)	\$372,000
	<u>General Purpose Projects (Non-Bonds)</u>	
	Golf Course Irrigation System (SF)	\$454,000
	Highway Plow Truck and Plow (GF-OT/VT)	\$261,000
	Meadowood Barn Restoration (CRF/G/D/O)	\$650,000
	Eno Building Infrastructure (CRF)	\$389,440
	Bridge Improvements (Firetown Road and Barndoor Hills Rehab) (Local Bridge Program Grant)	\$402,500
	<u>Sewer Use/Assessment Funds & Grants</u>	
	Primary Clarifier	\$1,000,000
	Sewer Replacement	\$1,075,000
	Grit System	\$250,000
	<u>School Projects (Bonds)</u>	
	Security Improvements	\$250,000
	Tariffville Modulares	\$500,000

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$1,700,000 FOR THE HIGHWAY PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING THE USE OF \$200,000 GENERAL FUND FUNDS, \$243,500 TOWN AID ROAD GRANT FUNDS AND \$156,500 LOCIP GRANT FUNDS TO FINANCE A PORTION OF SAID APPROPRIATION; AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,100,000 TO FINANCE THE REMAINING PORTION OF SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

- (a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,700,000) for repaving, repair and rehabilitation of the Town roadways pursuant to the Town's pavement management program. Of such appropriation, \$200,000 is hereby appropriated from the General Fund; \$1,100,000 shall be financed by the issuance of bonds and notes of the Town; and the balance shall be paid by the following anticipated grants: Town Aid Road grant \$243,500 and LOCIP grant \$156,500. The appropriation may be spent for engineering and other consultants' fees, equipment costs, design and construction costs, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.
- (b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,100,000) to finance, in part, the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-369 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed ten years.
- (c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,100,000). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.
- (d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.
- (e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the

Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

- (f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.
- (g) That the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, the Treasurer and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$223,400 FOR SIDEWALK RESURFACING AND RECONSTRUCTION; AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

- (a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$223,400) for sidewalk resurfacing and reconstruction, drainage and ADA accessibility improvements. The appropriation may be spent for planning, design, engineering, equipment, construction costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.
- (b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$223,400) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-369 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed ten years.
- (c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$223,400). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.
- (d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.
- (e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by

this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

- (f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.
- (g) That the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, the Treasurer and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$877,500 FOR REPLACEMENT OF ELEVATORS IN TOWN HALL, ENO HALL AND LIBRARY; AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

- (a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$877,500) for the replacement of elevators in Town Hall, Eno Hall and the Library, including new doors, operators, linkages, sensors, power units, operating panels, cab interior and new cylinder for the Eno Hall elevator. The appropriation may be spent for engineering and other consultants' fees, equipment costs, design and construction costs, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.
- (b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$877,500) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-369 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed ten years.
- (c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$877,500). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.
- (d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.
- (e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are

authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

- (f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.
- (g) That the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, the Treasurer and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$873,000 FOR MULTI-USE TRAIL CONNECTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT (ROUTE 10 TO CURTISS PARK); AUTHORIZING THE USE OF \$343,500 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE SET-ASIDE GRANT FUNDS AND \$250,000 GENERAL FUND FUNDS TO FINANCE A PORTION OF SAID APPROPRIATION; AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$279,500 TO FINANCE THE REMAINING PORTION OF SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

- (a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY-THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$873,000) for improvements to and construction of the Multi-Use Connections/Trail Development (Route 10 to Curtiss Park). Of such appropriation, \$250,000 is hereby appropriated from General Fund funds; \$279,500 shall be financed by the issuance of bonds and notes of the Town; and the balance shall be paid by the anticipated \$343,500 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside grant funds. The appropriation may be spent for engineering, design and other consultants' fees, construction costs, land or easement acquisition costs, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.
- (b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$279,500) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-369 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed ten years.
- (c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$279,500). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.
- (d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver

the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.

- (e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.
- (f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.
- (g) That the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, the Treasurer and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$1,989,000 FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE OLD DRAKE HILL ROAD BRIDGE; AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

- (a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate ONE MILLION NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,989,000) for Old Drake Hill Road/Flower Bridge repairs. The appropriation may be spent for design and construction costs, painting, materials, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.
- (b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed ONE MILLION NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,989,000) to finance, in part, the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-369 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed ten years.
- (c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed ONE MILLION NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,989,000). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.
- (d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.
- (e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to

amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

- (f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.
- (g) That the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, the Treasurer and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$372,000 FOR BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS (CLIMAX ROAD BRIDGE OVER NOD BROOK); AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

- (a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$372,000) for the Bridge Improvement Program, consisting of the replacement of the Climax Road Bridge over Nod Brook. The appropriation may be spent for engineering and other consultants' fees, materials, equipment costs, design and construction costs, demolition and removal of materials, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.
- (b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$372,000) to finance, in part, the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-369 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed ten years.
- (c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$372,000). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.
- (d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.
- (e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such

representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

- (f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.
- (g) That the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, the Treasurer and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE SIMSBURY FARMS SPECIAL REVENUE FUND \$454,000 FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM AND THE ORKIL POND DAM SPILLWAY AT THE SIMSBURY FARMS GOLF COURSE

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the Simsbury Farms Special Revenue Fund the amount of FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$454,000) for the replacement of the irrigation system and the Orkil Pond Dam spillway at the Simsbury Farms Golf Course. The appropriation may be spent for planning, engineering, equipment, construction costs, utility and permit fees, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE GENERAL FUND \$261,000 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A HIGHWAY PLOW TRUCK AND PLOW

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the General Fund the amount of TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$261,000) for the acquisition of a highway plow truck and plow. The appropriation may be spent for a truck fully equipped with, but limited to, a snow plow, sander/salter with computer controls, liquid de-icing tank, GPS system, emergency radio acquisition and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project. The Town anticipates receiving \$15,000 in trade-in for the truck being replaced.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND \$57,500, FROM STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE GRANT FUNDS \$450,000, FROM DONATED FUNDS \$85,000, FROM AGRICULTURAL LEASE PAYMENTS \$57,500, FOR AN AGGREGATE APPROPRIATION OF \$650,000, FOR RESORATION OF THE HISTORICAL BARNs OF MEADOWOOD

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate SIX HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$650,000) in the aggregate, consisting of \$57,500 from the General Fund, \$450,000 from grants received from the State Historic Preservation Office, and \$85,000 from donated funds, and \$57,500 from agricultural lease payments, for the restoration and preservation of the historical barns of Meadowood. The appropriation may be spent for inspection, design and construction costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND THE AMOUNT OF \$389,440 FOR BUILDING SYSTEM UPGRADES TO ENO BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the Capital Reserve Fund the amount of THREE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED FORTY DOLLARS (\$389,440) for building system upgrades to Eno Building infrastructure. The appropriation may be spent for design and installation, new chiller, new boilers, terminal units/heat pumps, water distribution system and window glazing, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM LOCAL BRIDGE PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS THE AMOUNT OF \$402,500 FOR BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS (FIRETOWN ROAD AND BARNDOOR HILLS ROAD REHABILITATION)

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate from Local Bridge Program grant funds FOUR HUNDRED TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$402,500) for the rehabilitation of the Firetown Road bridge over Bissell Brook (Bridge No. 04549) and the Barndoor Hills Road bridge over Bissell Brook (Bridge No. 04550). The appropriation may be spent for engineering and other consultants' fees, materials, equipment costs, design and construction costs, demolition and removal of materials, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE SEWER USE FUND \$1,000,000 FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE PRIMARY CLARIFIER AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the Sewer Use Fund the amount of ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) for the repair and rehabilitation of the primary clarifiers at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The appropriation may be spent for design, engineering and consulting fees, construction and materials, installation and equipment, demolition and removal of materials, and other expenses related to the project. The Water Pollution Control Authority may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE SEWER USE FUND \$1,075,000 FOR SEWER REPLACEMENT

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the Sewer Use Fund the amount of ONE MILLION SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,075,000) for the replacement and upgrade of existing sanitary sewers in the Pine Hill Drive, Stebbins Brook, Middle Lane, Woods Lane and South Road areas. The appropriation may be spent for design, engineering and consulting fees, construction and materials, demolition and removal of materials, site work, and other expenses related to the project. The Water Pollution Control Authority may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE SEWER USE FUND \$250,000 FOR THE UPGRADE OF THE GRIT DECLASSIFIER AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the Sewer Use Fund the amount of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) for the upgrade of the grit declassifier system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The appropriation may be spent for design, engineering and consulting fees, construction and materials, installation and equipment, demolition and removal of materials, and other expenses related to the project. The Water Pollution Control Authority may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$250,000 FOR DISTRICT-WIDE SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS; AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

(a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) for District-wide security improvements, including upgrades to door access system. The appropriation may be spent for engineering and other consultants' fees, equipment costs, design, construction and installation costs, materials, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

(b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Sections 7-369 and 10-289 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed ten years.

(c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.

(d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.

(e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

(f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.

(g) That the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, the Treasurer, the Board of Education and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$500,000 FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF MODULAR CLASSROOMS AT TARIFFVILLE SCHOOL; AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

(a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000) for the replacement of modular classrooms at Tariffville School. The appropriation may be spent for design, engineering and other consultants' fees, design and construction costs, materials, land or easement acquisition, equipment, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

(b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Sections 7-369 and 10-289 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed ten years.

(c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.

(d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.

(e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

(f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.

(g) That the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, the Treasurer, the Board of Education and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

Meriwether Amy

From: Town Clerk
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 11:11 AM
To: Fitzgerald Tom; Tyburski Tom; Meriwether Amy
Cc: Munroe Trish; Espinal Jen
Subject: FW: Old Drake Hill Flower Bridge

Please see the public comment submission below.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Town Clerk Department
Town of Simsbury
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860)658-3243
(860)658-3206

From: LYNN BRUNO <lynnjbruno@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, April 16, 2023 1:11 PM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
Subject: Old Drake Hill Flower Bridge

Board of Finance Committee:

As a Simsbury resident for nearly 12 years, the Old Drake Hill Flower Bridge has been a source of civic pride and dedicated service for myself and my family. I have served on the Board of Directors, been involved with the Burgers on the Bridge and have volunteered countless hours of installation and maintenance of the flowers in boxes, baskets and gardens. I have watched it grow from a local novelty to a huge destination for folks near and far. It is the first place I take visiting family and friends and, I believe, so do many others.

As our dear Bridge ages, we are committed to keeping it in the forefront of our town's attractiveness by encouraging your committee to move forward with funding for documentation, budget & implementation to repair this metal truss bridge. The ODHFB is also a source of income for many of our local businesses and appears extensively in local advertising and in personal photo albums. I urge you to keep this as a top priority for funding.

Thank you for your continued assistance in keeping this legacy alive.

Respectfully,
Lynn Bruno

Meriwether Amy

From: Contact form at simsburycct <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:23 PM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: [simsburycct] Tax Increase (Sent by jan manchester, janman_2001@yahoo.com)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Board of Finance,

jan manchester (janman_2001@yahoo.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/contact>) at simsburycct.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/edit>.

Message:

I'm very disappointed to see how much our taxes are planned to increase. When we voted on the referendum for Latimer Lane school, we were told NO TAX INCREASE! Now, we're told that there WILL be a tax increase, due to the fact that "it takes time...". I think SOMEONE should have known when the referendum was voted on that it would cost more than expected, but nothing was expressed to the public. When I emailed and asked about all the projects, I received NO reply about the sidewalk and bike path proposals, and minimal about the Latimer Lane project.

I KNOW costs are going up - MY costs are going up. Inflation has raised MY costs of materials, health care and utilities. MY income hasn't increased as much, so I have less buying power. Our household is one below the Median Household Income, and WAY below the mean/average household income of \$180,484. Unfortunately, we're NOT part of the ~63% making well over \$100K

In regards to "Recent population and enrollment increases are resulting in requests for new staffing..." - it seems that that should have been considered when all the new developments were approved.

Maybe we should "pay as we go" - or have another way to balance the budget besides raising the mill rate, along with raising all the appraised values! Its getting harder and harder to afford to live in Simsbury. I would like more effort put into finding other ways to find funds.

Meriwether Amy

From: Linda Schofield <lindaschofieldmph@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 8:13 AM
To: Art House; Derek Peterson; Lisa Heavner; Meriwether Amy; Mike Doyle; Robert Helfand
Subject: Fwd: Proposed 23/24 Budget

Another letter

----- Forwarded message -----

From: ROY POMERANTZ <roybpomerantz@aol.com>
Date: Mon, Apr 17, 2023 at 9:10 PM
Subject: Proposed 23/24 Budget
To: <townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov>
CC: jspomerantz@aol.com <jspomerantz@aol.com>, Linda Schofield <lindaschofieldmph@gmail.com>

Keeping tax increases to a minimum is crucial to ourselves and many town residents. We would like to feel that the Board of Finance is looking closely at Board of Education spending requests when the Total Budget is increasing by a historic amount.

Sincerely,
Roy and Joanne Pomerantz
65 Blue Ridge Drive
Simsbury, CT

Meriwether Amy

From: cmsmailer@civicplus.com on behalf of Contact form at simsburycct <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 11:30 AM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: [simsburycct] Budget proposal testimony (Sent by Jennifer Skehan, jenlskehan@gmail.com)
Attachments: simsburycct_budget_testimony_4-23.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Board of Finance,

Jennifer Skehan (jenlskehan@gmail.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.simsburycct.gov/user/11911/contact>) at simsburycct.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.simsburycct.gov/user/11911/edit>.

Message:

Testimony attached for proposed 2023-24 town budget.

I have been a resident of Simsbury since 2009 residing at 27 Hunting Ridge Drive. I have a son in the school system at the elementary level- Tariffville School. I am writing to share my opposition to the 2023-24 budget proposal.

Based on the revaluation this year, my property taxes will be increasing quite a bit. Considering the difficulties the entire country is facing, I am somewhat surprised that there appears to be little effort to scale back on behalf of the residents here in Simsbury. Inflation is hitting everyone hard- the cost of everyday goods, oil and electricity are at levels many of us have never seen and there appears to be no end in sight.

While I am aware Simsbury is considered a "wealthy" town, I am sure it has not escaped you that many in town are not in fact wealthy and this tax increase will be a significant burden.

Many have made life altering adjustments to keep up with rising costs. Taxpayers are doing more with less and focusing on necessities. Government must do the same and focus on your core responsibilities. One would think that government could get a bit more creative with some cost saving measures.

I would like to highlight a few items of concern:

The Flower Bridge is wonderful. That said, I think that a \$2 million restoration project – not to mention whatever you paid for a study is not timely. Have you considered perhaps matching funds, a website with a contribution option or a series of fundraisers? Advocates should raise funds from residents and visitors. Has anyone researched what other communities have done with similar structures? While I appreciate the efforts, I am certain that the brochure for tourists is now out of date as the restaurants on the brochure are out of business.

Board of Education:

The Board of Ed budget is 100% out of control. I say this as a parent of an elementary school child who moved here to ensure he receives a top-notch public education. I do know that there is more that can be cut back from that budget proposal. It would involve making difficult decisions and having frank conversations with residents. I have a few questions:

1/ While I am aware Simsbury is not eligible for most, there are some grants or funding opportunities that we may be able to access or apply for. One recent example, have we applied for this: HVAC Indoor Air Quality Grants for Public Schools (https://portal.ct.gov/hvacgrants/?language=en_US)? Are you communicating regularly with our State Representative with regard to state level funding and grant opportunities? How about the federal delegation?

2/ There was testimony given at the hearing on April 4th about the Director of the Equity Council full time position. Does this position include health benefits? Is this not a position that could be converted to a consultant? Teachers participate in several professional development days which I understand address equity and sensitivity in teaching methods. One could argue that once a format is developed, a full-time director position would not be necessary.

3/ Is Simsbury properly reimbursed for the Open Choice/CREC students? It has been reported that other districts throughout the state have not been, leaving taxpayers to cover the difference. I am in full support of this program; however, the cities receive far more state/ECS funding than we do and should be properly reimbursing the per pupil cost.

4/ I have reached out previously and have never received a response regarding the hundreds of condo/townhouses in town with more slated to be built. I am struggling to understand whether there is a discussion among the various town boards to determine the pros and cons of these developments.

Not long ago there was a proposal to close Tariffville School. A point was made that the schools were bursting at the seams. Yet the town continues to build apartment developments. These townhouses are often occupied by families who, for any number of reasons do not live in a single-family home in town. These residents do avail themselves of the school system and other town resources but pay a fraction of the taxes. This proposed tax increase will not affect those residents.

Is there any discussion among the Zoning, BOE, BOF, BOS membership to weigh the potential impacts to schools? Are the taxes collected on these developments worth the negative impacts to school enrollment, traffic, roads, etc.?

5/ The Simsbury school system is excellent. However, it should be noted that other than classroom instruction, I have to pay out of pocket for everything. I pay thousands in fees for sports and school supplies (twice per year) for my child as well as for others in class. During COVID, I received multiple pleas to purchase and donate PPE such as masks and sanitizer. Those items were provided by the state and federal government. All schools statewide received truckloads of this equipment and funding, yet I had to provide it for school use.

6/ School lunches are sub-par, and I am being kind. My 5th grader is certainly not one that could be considered a 'foodie', but he refuses to buy lunch because he said "the colors of some of the food is weird and sometimes I don't know what it is. It makes my stomach upset after I eat it." I am told the milk is often expired and sour.

7/ The field at Tariffville School is a giant dust pit with very little grass that slopes in the center so any amount of rain makes it unusable.

Town Priorities:

During the presentation on April 4th, you reported it was recommended Simsbury add 3 police officers. You budgeted for 1. In a time where the crime rate is uncomfortably high- even in the suburbs- you only added 1 police position but will potentially fund the flower bridge \$2 million. I simply do not understand.

Your PowerPoint presentation highlights BOS Priorities. Among them are public safety, quality of life, financial management and economic development. I can't help but note the contradictions. Only budgeting for 1 police officer vs. the recommended 3, little consideration for the financial strain you are contributing to for most residents, namely seniors or those on fixed incomes, and not acknowledging nor addressing the number of local businesses closing. Further, you are seriously considering an affordable housing development on a small residential parcel that frankly looks like a miniature correctional facility. This development will check the affordable housing 8-30g box but this budget proposal prices many others out- current and future residents.

Government must live within its means. With few exceptions, many of the residents simply have no more money to give. You should be considering the entire town in your decision-making process -referring to your "Equity &

Inclusion" bullet point. You should be making difficult decisions to scale back to ease some of the pressures we are all feeling. One cannot scroll through social media or walk through a supermarket without seeing retirees seeking part time work to make ends meet or families with fewer items in their grocery carts. It is a fact that choices are being made between purchasing heating oil or prescription medicine- yes, even here in Simsbury.

I have zero confidence that taxes will stay flat in the next few years. I am however, 100% confident that we will never see a reduction. In fact, I anticipate another increase in the near future. With the revaluation locked in for the next 10 years, any tax increase will be devastating. Please reconsider this proposal.

Thank you for the attention.

Jennifer Skehan
27 Hunting Ridge Drive, Simsbury

Meriwether Amy

From: Contact form at simsburycct <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 6:44 AM
To: Meriwether Amy
Subject: [simsburycct] Proposed increases (Sent by trina Stehlik, tlstarrynight@yahoo.com)

Hello Board of Finance,

trina Stehlik (tlstarrynight@yahoo.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/contact>) at simsburycct.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/user/11911/edit>.

Message:

I just want to emphasize that there is a substantial population of 65 year and older adults, many of whom have more limited incomes than other segments of Simsbury.

While I understand that taxes are inevitable-and Simsbury is a great town to live in-there is an inherent risk in potentially pushing out residents who have been good neighbors and contributed to the town's growth over the years. It also creates barriers to individuals/families who would potentially enrich the town and expand the culture of welcoming that Simsbury has worked to create.

Please consider all the population demographics when finalizing the budget/tax increases. We must continue to work towards a diverse and culture-rich

Community here. The proposed increases will cause extreme hardship for many individuals.

Thank you for your time.

Trina Stehlik

April 5, 2023

Simsbury Board of Finance
933 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
Attention: Lisa Heavener

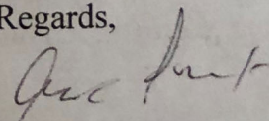
Dear Board of Finance:

I am writing to express some concerns about the proposed budget. First, let me say that I have no doubt that you are a well-meaning board and I understand that this is a difficult process. However, if you continue spending without making spending cuts, future town budgets will increase to a level where people will reluctantly move out of this town, property values will decrease and a legacy of debt will burden future town leaders.

In looking at the draft budget, it seems there are non-essential costs. Here are just a few:

1. Meadowbrook: Suggest removing and keeping the historical components and demolishing the sheds. The town has pressing needs; the restoration seems to be well-intentioned, but ill-advised, given cost considerations (regardless of ARPA).
2. EV charging stations: Is this something that is essential in a tough budget? If the determination is yes, I strongly feel that users should pay to charge their vehicles. The town does not give away gas, I do not think taxpayers should subsidize this by giving away electricity.
3. Metacom safety improvements: This is private property. Is it legal for the town to pay for repairs? This strongly seems like an owner responsibility, not a taxpayer expense.
4. Forgiveness of SVAA Radio loan: The loan is a legal obligation; they should honor the repayment of their debt. While this may be a small amount, costs like this add up.
5. Landscaping on Iron Horse: Again, in a tough budget year, is this necessary or can it be pushed back?
6. Teacher salaries: Are you budgeting \$100,000 for each new teacher? Why not hire younger, well qualified teachers at a lower salary?
7. Police overtime: This number seems excessive, especially given a new hire.
8. You all speak often about the upcoming difficult "off years". In the interest of transparency, it is important inform taxpayers that there will be "off years" for the foreseeable future as additional large education-related projects are ahead.
9. These are just a few costs; please take a deeper look and eliminate non-essentials.

Regards,



Meriwether Amy

From: Heavner Lisa
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 10:01 PM
To: Schofield L; Art House; Derek Peterson; Robert Helfand; Doyle Michael; Meriwether Amy
Subject: Fwd: Federal COVID funds (ARPA): Simsbury Main Street Grant Proposal

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sew Inspired <sewinspiredquilts@sbcglobal.net>
Date: April 13, 2023 at 9:09:56 PM EDT
To: Mackstutis Wendy <wmackstutis@simsbury-ct.gov>, Wellman Eric <ewellman@simsbury-ct.gov>, Abbuhl Amber <aabbuhl@simsbury-ct.gov>, Goetz Heather <hgoetz@simsbury-ct.gov>, Peterson Peter <ppeterson@simsbury-ct.gov>, Askham Sean <saskham@simsbury-ct.gov>, Heavner Lisa <lheavner@simsbury-ct.gov>
Cc: simmainst@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Federal COVID funds (ARPA): Simsbury Main Street Grant Proposal
Reply-To: Sew Inspired <sewinspiredquilts@sbcglobal.net>

Dear Simsbury Town Officials,

I am writing to implore you to use some of the Federal Covid Funds (ARPA) to assist business owners in Simsbury by approving the grant program as put forth by Simsbury Main Street. The Retail, Restaurant and Services Grant would provide the much-needed funds to businesses like mine to adjust to a post-pandemic retail environment.

I am a lifelong resident of Simsbury, a property owner, and for the last 17 years have owned and operated Sew Inspired, a specialty retail shop, in the Fiddler's Green complex in Simsbury Center. Our business brings over 200 individuals to the town center per week from over a 90-mile radius. These customers need places to eat and other places to shop and visit while in Simsbury.

Despite being named one of America's top ten quilt shops by American Patchwork and Quilting in 2020, our business faced many challenges during the pandemic. This included our inability to pivot quickly to online sales due to the lack of a POS that would have enabled online sales while customers were unable or unwilling to shop in person. Grant monies could potentially allow us to make the capital investment needed to prevent this scenario in the future and better compete in today's online retail phenomenon and live selling platforms.

Please fund the grant request in this year's budget and help businesses in Simsbury continue to recover and thrive going forward. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Viv Lazich, Owner, Sew Inspired Quilt Shop

Sew Inspired Quilt Shop & Studio
"We're creating community."

8 Wilcox Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
860-651-8885

<http://www.sewinspiredquilts.com>



Meriwether Amy

From: Heavner Lisa
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 6:58 AM
To: Schofield L; Art House; Robert Helfand; Derek Peterson; Doyle Michael; Meriwether Amy
Subject: Fwd: Simsbury Finances for Covid Coverage for Restaurants

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Marc Lubetkin <marc@redstonepubs.com>
Date: April 13, 2023 at 7:44:01 PM EDT
To: Wendy Mackstutis <wgmack@me.com>, Sean Askham <sean.askham1@comcast.net>, Heather Goetz <heathergoetz@me.com>, Schofield L <lindaschofieldmph@gmail.com>, Heavner Lisa <lheavner@simsbury-ct.gov>
Cc: Sarah Nielsen <simmainst@sbcglobal.net>, Marc Lubetkin <marc@redstonepubs.com>
Subject: Simsbury Finances for Covid Coverage for Restaurants

Please, while I'm sending this to the whole BOS, I know their emails are blocked. Please read this aloud at the meeting.

Simsbury select persons and finance board,

Please consider Main Street Partnerships proposal to support the restaurants in the Simsbury downtown area following Covid. While we survived Covid and are now doing better, we still haven't recovered from the financial losses and the cost of doing business that began with Covid.

When speaking with a number of you, I was assured that you would consider this kind of funding to make up for the additional costs that we faced because of the Covid situation. Instead, I'm paying extra. A perfect example is the increased personal property taxes because I had to buy parking barriers (\$2800).

While our business sales continue to grow, the cost of doing business has also grown exponentially. One example is the increase in electric rate of 50%.

The restaurants are the heart and soul of the downtown business scene and in Simsbury we should be supported.

I understand that you want to spend the money to help all the people in Simsbury, but all the people in Simsbury didn't face the damaging, crushing financial responsibilities that the restaurants did. Nor did all the people in Simsbury respond in the positive way the restaurants did.

We were considered essential employees serving food to those that couldn't get it, delivering to peoples homes, offering curbside pick up, and incurring those additional costs and services to provide goods and food and necessary items. (Remember the free toilet paper rolls we gave out?)

We are the heroes. I don't think it's too much to ask that you consider some level of funding to help cover the additional cost we faced.

Marc Lubetkin
Red Stone Pub

Marc Lubetkin. 860-992-8644.